

# The Baird Star

Our Motto, "Tis Neither Birth, Nor Wealth, Nor State, But the Get-up-and-Get That Makes Men Great."

VOLUME 58—NO. 51

BAIRD, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1945

MARVIN HUNTER, Jr., Editor

## Interesting Program Heard By Club Men

Those who attended the Callahan County Club luncheon in the basement of the Methodist church Wednesday enjoyed an interesting program presented by the Swenson brothers. Gene Swenson told of his experiences in the European theater of war, after which he and his brother, Marvin, who is also a World War II veteran, rendered several slide trombone and piano selections. Captain Randall C. Jackson, just home from the service, related interesting experiences in the Pacific fields of battle, and Bill Yeung spoke briefly of flying transport ships to the European war zone. B. H. Freeland praised the servicemen highly for the wonderful job they did in the winning of the war, and appealed to those present to do all they can to finish the job at home by buying bonds in the Victory Loan drive. He stated that Baird is further behind than any other section in the county at the present time.

The football banquet committee reported that plans are going well for holding the banquet during the last week in January. Those who plan to attend the banquet were urged to notify the secretary, Ralph Ashlock, as soon as possible.

## COURTHOUSE TO CLOSE FOR CHRISTMAS

All officers at the Callahan County courthouse will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25, to observe Christmas. Those who have business at the courthouse are cordially requested to act accordingly. Itc.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

A Christmas party was held in the home of Mrs. E. C. Fulton Monday at 3 p. m., honoring the Presbyterian Ladies. Mrs. Fulton read the scripture, the second chapter of Luke, and the group sang Christmas carols. A prayer was given by Mrs. Lee E. Estes. Gifts from the brightly decorated tree were exchanged. The guests passed to the dining room where a delicious plate was served from a lace covered table centered with holly and green and Santa Clause and his reindeers.

## SWINSON FAMILY TOGETHER FOR CHRISTMAS

For the first Christmas in four years all members of the R. G. Swinson family plan to be together. Pvt. Johnny Lee of Camp Crowder; Eugene, who is home after three years and four months in the ETO; Bobby Ruth; Marvin; Mrs. Swinson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Jarrett; and Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Finto of Ranger will enjoy Christmas dinner with the Swinsons.

## CPL. TUCKER HOME AFTER 18 MONTHS IN INDIA

Cpl. C. W. Tucker arrived in the states December 3 after eighteen months spent in India. Cpl. Tucker received a discharge December 11 at Camp Fanning and arrived home Thursday of last week with his wife who met him in Fort Worth Tuesday, December 11.

Tucker received the India-Burma American Theater Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two Bronze Stars, Good Conduct Medal, Distinguished Unit Badge, and World War II Victory Medal.

He was in service three years and three months, training at Morrison Field, Fla. before overseas service.

Mrs. Tucker and son, Teddy, resided here while Cpl. Tucker was in India.

Francys Weir, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Weir of Big Spring, formerly of Clyde, was one of the three seniors nominated for the Senior Favorite Girl. Frances is well known in the Clyde school, having gone through grammar school there.

TYPEWRITER PAPER and ribbons—The Star office.

## Schools Close Here For Holidays

Baird public schools closed today and will re-open Monday, December 31st, announced Superintendent Olaf G. South. Mr. South stated that about 20 per cent of the students are out of school due to illness. One teacher, Mrs. S. L. McElroy, is in the hospital with pneumonia.

## BEARS BASKETBALL SEASON OPENS

By "WICKED" WEST  
The Baird Bears inaugurated their basketball season Friday when they entered the McMurry tournament.

The Bears were teamed with Brownwood in the first round and lost 37-22. Brownwood being a class AA school led all the way. Then Brownwood went to the finals to lose to Abilene 29-22.

The Bears returned the next day to play another class AA school, Cisco. They won 24-22 with their sharpshooter dropping 19 of 22 points through the basket.

The Bears then played Hamlin in their final game and lost when Brad Rowland, Hamlin star forward, dropped in a field goal in an overtime period. It was only overtime game of the tournament and perhaps the thriller.

Horace Bains, a hold over from last year, made the all tournament team.

Brownwood 11, Cisco 19, and Hamlin 12.

## NATIONAL CLOTHING DRIVE JANUARY 7 THROUGH 31

Mrs. W. A. Fetterly, chairman of National Clothing Drive in Callahan County, announces a drive to collect clothing for relief of allied countries, January 7 to 31.

Mrs. Fetterly asks all clubs and organizations of the county to assist in the county-wide drive.

## GOODFELLOWS WILL HELP NEEDY FAMILIES

Baird Goodfellows are making plans to help needy families of Baird at Christmas which has been done so many years, dating back to the Christmas some thirty years ago when the late beloved pioneer, Dr. R. G. Powell, very quietly sent out baskets of food and other necessities to those in need on Christmas all at his own expense.

At a meeting held Wednesday afternoon the following committees were appointed to carry out the program: Finance Committee: J. C. Lee, chairman, Clifton Hord, Jerry Loper, Justin Anderson. Purchasing Committee for boy's clothing, shoes, etc.: Olaf South, Bill White. Purchasing Committee for girl's clothing, food supplies, etc.: Mrs. L. L. Blackburn, Mrs. Ace Hickman. Packing Committee: As has been the custom in former years the Study Clubs of the city have had charge of the packing. This committee was named: Mrs. A. E. Dyer, Wednesday Club; Mrs. Lofland, Corinne Blackburn, Wednesday Club; Mrs. W. P. Brightwell, Delphian Club.

## APPLICATIONS FOR CALLAHAN COUNTY SERVICE OFFICE OPEN

The American Legion Posts at Baird and Cross Plains are seeking applicants for the position of Callahan County Service Officer. Certain qualifications for the job are needed, details of which may be obtained from B. H. Freeland, Baird or Fred Heysler, Route 4, Cisco. An ex-service man is preferred. All applications should be in writing and addressed to Terrell Williams, Adjutant, Eugene Bell Post 82, Baird, Texas. All applications will be examined by the Post, after which the name of one man will be presented to the Commissioner's Court of Callahan County and his appointment urged for this position. A Service Officer has long been needed in the County.

The Baird Star office will be closed all next week to observe the Christmas Holidays.

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

In keeping with the spirit of the season, Baird merchants, extend Christmas Greetings to all their friends and customers in this week's Baird Star. At this glad season of the year, peace and harmony prevailing throughout our county, it is fitting and proper that we should show our sincere appreciation for business and friendships of the past year. It is with a great deal of pride that The Star issues this Christmas Greeting edition this week that all the good people of our county might know that they are appreciated by those whose greetings appear on these pages. Each greeting has been especially written with the desire that each one who reads the messages will feel that it is directed personally to you. We hope you will read all of the greetings and understand that the firm or individual is sincerely wishing you and yours personal Christmas Greetings.



Whew! Finally and at last, it's done! Old St. Nick can settle back in his easy chair now and warm his sox-clad feet by the fire. The old fellow had a tough road this Christmas, with his sleigh loaded down with gifts of every description, but he made it around, and all of us can enjoy the blessings of this Christmas in peace and comfort. Christmas lights are burning brightly throughout our land and country today, the stockings have been filled to overflowing with gifts for the children and pretty packages have been placed around the trees for the mothers and dads. The Star is shining in the East and we are rejoicing with exceeding great joy. Callahan folk have been richly blessed for here we have peace and plenty. We are willing that Santa should sit down now and rest, as we see him here, tired but happy in the knowledge that we have peace on earth, good will toward men, and hope of the future. Today the Baird Star joins other business concerns of Baird in extending greetings and best wishes to all our readers. May the dove of peace abide with you at this Christmas-time and forever.

THE BAIRD STAR.

## CHRISTMAS CANTATA TO BE PRESENTED

The Methodist Choir will present the Christmas Cantata, "The Choir of Bethlehem" by Noel Benson, Sunday evening, December 23, 1945, at 7 o'clock. The public is invited. Ralph Short will be the narrator and Mrs. Viva Tucker will be at the Hammond organ. Mrs. W. O. Wylie, Jr. is pianist and choir director. Soloists will be Mrs. Olaf South, Mrs. Mary Armstrong, Frances Shrader, and Mae Clair Wheeler. Choir members are Misses Lillie Frances Bains, Mae Clair Wheeler, Frances Shrader, Betsy Hickman, Elisha Gilliland, Geneva Jo Gibson, Ellen Marie Hill, Laura Louise Hughes; Mesdames Glen Boyd, Gilbert Hinds, Sterling Reynolds, Olaf South, Cecil West, Bruce Brown, Lela Miller, Mary Armstrong, Tee Baulch, Bob Norrell, Lee Ivey, C. B. Snyder, Jr., T. W. Briscoe; Messrs. Robert Smith, Roland Dunwoody, W. A. Fetterly, M. G. Farmer; Mr. and Mrs. John A. Shrader, and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Brashear.

Mrs. Norma Snow of Fresno, Calif. and Mrs. Joe Gecker and little daughter, Jo Ann, and grand-mother, Mrs. S. A. Watts, here last week, Mrs. Watts reports that Mrs. Lee Hooker, her daughter in California gave her a fine forty pound salmon, iced down, which she and her husband caught in a stream there, as a Christmas gift.

Mr. and Mrs. Buster George, Mrs. Carmichael, Mrs. Lee Ivey, Mrs. Dabney Estes of San Angelo, and Mrs. W. B. Acheson attended The Messiah at the high school auditorium in Abilene Sunday afternoon at 3:30. The Messiah was put on by Simmons University, A. C. C., McMurry College, the churches of Abilene, and the high school, under the direction of Mr. Waldrop.

## PLAZA THEATRE HOLDS ANNUAL BANQUET

It was as one happy family gathered around the Christmas dinner table when employees and friends of the Plaza Theatre attended the theatre's fourth annual banquet Wednesday at 4:00 p. m. at the Methodist church basement. Turkey with all the trimmings was served banquet style to twenty-three persons. J. C. (Pops) Lee, Plaza manager, was presented with a gift from the employee body—a handsome pipe and tobacco holder. Mr. Lee spoke from his heart when he addressed his faithful group of employees who have done a grand job of providing an uninterupted program of entertainment at the Plaza during the past year.

Among those who attended the affair were Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Fabian Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Bill White, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Hunter, Mr. Harold Ray, Mrs. Bruce Bell, Billy Beth Bell, Betty Lou Hamilton, Ruby Mae Atwood, Doyle Nordyke, Tommy Hawk, L. A. Hawk, Billy Bob Pearson, Billy Fred Hart, Billy Bob Hawk, Franklin Miller, John Ingram, Joe Ryan and Jimmie Ingram.

## DELPHIAN CLUB HAS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Delphian Club met in the home of Mrs. Bob Norrell with Mrs. E. C. Fulton as co-hostess Tuesday at 3 p. m. for their Christmas party. An interesting program composed of The First Christmas Tree, Mrs. Norrell; Christmas in England, Mrs. R. L. Alexander; The Origin of Christmas, Mrs. Fulton, was given. Gifts were exchanged from a beautiful decorated Christmas tree. Mrs. J. A. Brashear was a guest. The next meeting of the club will be with Mrs. C. B. Snyder, Jr., January 22.

Russell Warren, Hoot McGowen and George Lambert left Monday for a few days visit in Dallas.

## CALLAHAN RESIDENT SUCCUMBS AT BAIRD

Mrs. Joe B. Mauldin, 77, resident of the Rowden community for 30 years, died in the Callahan hospital here this afternoon. Funeral was conducted at 2 p. m. Sunday in the Belle Plain church. The Rev. E. T. Powers, Hawley, officiated. Burial was in the Belle Plain cemetery, where her late husband is buried, under direction of the Wylie Funeral Home.

Grandsons of Mrs. Mauldin served as pallbearers. Mrs. Mauldin was born in Coleman county on Jan. 24, 1868. She was a member of the Baptist Church.

Survivors are three sons, Leonard Mauldin of Amarillo, Archie Mauldin of Fort Worth and Jesse Mauldin of Clyde; one daughter, Mrs. Walter Jones of Rowden; two sisters, Mrs. Ellen Ashford of Coleman and Mrs. Willie Williams of Shields; 20 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren.

## BRIDAL SHOWER

Mrs. Granville Pierce, the former Nola Van Gibson, was honored with a gift tea at the home of Mrs. Jack C. Sims Sunday afternoon from three until five o'clock, with Mrs. O. C. Rouse, Mrs. Ashby White, Misses Margaret McClendon, Jimmie Chatham, Ellen Marie Hill, Udora, and Estelle. The brides' chosen colors of Freeland and silver were used in the decoration, the centerpiece being a bowl filled with white chrysanthemums flanked with tall blue candles in crystal holders.

Mrs. White served tea and Mrs. Rouse presided at the bride's book.

Bruce Bell SK 2-c and Donald Melton SK 2-c landed at Portland, Oregon Monday from Okinawa. They will report to Camp Wallace before coming home. They expect to arrive here Monday.

## CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN ON HIGHWAY 36

The section of Highway 36 to undergo construction between Plains and Abilene will be closed to traffic Saturday morning, and traffic will be routed by way of Baird. The highway will be surfaced from the intersection of the Baird-Coleman highway to meet the paved portion of the road near Abilene. Work on the project will require several months to complete.

## PRE-CHRISTMAS PARTY AT MORGAN HOME

A jolly good time was enjoyed by a host of friends at the Morgan home Tuesday evening when Mr. and Mrs. Morgan entertained with a pre-Christmas party. After the guests had arrived and spent some time visiting, refreshments of sandwiches, cake, nuts, mints and punch were served buffet style. Games were enjoyed until Santa Claus called time for the exchange of gifts around the Christmas tree. Among those who enjoyed the delightful party were F. A. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cox and daughter, Wanda, of Elmdale, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Wagner, Mr. and Mrs. Mut Brown of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Tankersley, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ashlock, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Johnson and son, Stan, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Dickey and the host and hostess.

## CARD OF THANKS

For the beautiful floral offering and the many deeds of kindness shown us during our bereavement and at the passing of our mother, Mrs. J. B. Mauldin, which occurred December 15, we extend our sincere thanks.

## THE MAULDIN FAMILY

The U. S. Navy Recruiting service will observe December 24th, 25th, 31st, and January 1st as Holidays. The Navy Recruiting Station in Abilene will be closed on these days.

CALLAHAN COUNTY, in Central West Texas, organized 1877; area 882 square miles, pop. 11,600. Rolling prairies, and wooded areas of mesquite, post oak, live oak. Soil sandy to chocolate loam. Elevation 1800 feet. Annual rainfall about 24 inches.

## Ellen G. Tankersley Bride of R. Fairley

In a single ring candle light ceremony Thursday evening, December 13, at 6:30 p. m. Miss Ellen Gee Tankersley was married to S-Sgt. Ralph E. Fairley, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Olaf South.

The Rev. A. A. Davis read the ceremony before an improvised altar of ferns, white mums and white candles, and silver wedding bells. Mrs. Bill Yarbrough and Mrs. W. A. French, Jr. lighted the candles.

Mrs. Viva Tucker played the traditional wedding music and accompanied Mrs. Olaf South to sing, "Oh, Promise Me."

Miss Joyce Miller was bridesmaid. She wore a red dress-makers suit with black accessories and wore a white corsage of carnations.

Ens. Bill Yarbrough served as best man. The bride was given in marriage by her father, Mr. G. H. Tankersley. She wore a gray dress-makers suit with black accessories. Her corsage was white gardenias. Her going away suit was of gold with brown coat and brown accessories.

For something old she carried a handmade lace point handkerchief, belonging to Mrs. Earl Hall.

During the reception which followed the ceremony, the bridal couple cut the beautiful three tiered white wedding cake at the refreshment table which was laid in lace and lighted by white candles in crystal candelabras. Mrs. W. A. French, Jr. served the cake to guests and Mrs. Bill Yarbrough poured coffee from a silver service. About fifty guests were served.

Ellen Gee finished Baird High in 1941, attended McMurry in '41 and '42. She had been employed by the First National Bank of Baird the past two and one-half years. S-Sgt. Fairley was a graduate of Port Arthur High School in 1939 then went into service, having served in the African Campaign in 1942, was wounded and sent back to the states. In 1944 he was sent back overseas, serving fourteen months. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Fairley of Hister.

After the wedding the couple left for a short honeymoon trip, to Dallas and to visit his parents.

Out of town guests were Mr. and Mrs. W. A. French, Jr., Bill III, and Mrs. Lottie King of Abilene.

## FUNERAL FOR MRS. SMITH

Funeral for Mrs. Kate Smith will be conducted in Eula at 2 p. m. today. Mrs. Bascom Smith passed away in Lubbock Wednesday at 10 p. m.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY AT W. M. S. MEETING

Christmas decorations and a Christmas tree furnished the setting Monday afternoon when the Woman's Missionary Society of the First Baptist Church met in their Royal Service Meeting, at the home of Mrs. Will Boydston.

The group joined in singing "Joy To The World" and the theme "Facing Tomorrow With God" was discussed. After gifts were exchanged, delicious refreshments were served to Mesdames B. L. Russell, Sr., Clampett, Loney, Foy, W. C. Acheson, Reese, W. T. Payne, Izard, Scorgins, A. A. Davis, Jack Mitchell and Will Boydston.

## MRS. BEARDEN HOSTESS TO DELPHIAN CLUB

Mrs. W. P. Bearden was hostess to the Delphian Club November 27, at 3 p. m. After roll call of current events, Mrs. W. P. Brightwell spoke on Blood Factors and Plasma and Mrs. Bearden on Medical Science. Mrs. M. L. Stubblefield was welcomed as a new member.

Mrs. Herbert Buckner and little daughter left Wednesday for their home in Oklahoma City after a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Hughes.

J. H. Cochran of Cisco is visiting his sister, Mrs. Nellie Borden, in Cross Plains. While in Baird Wednesday he paid The Baird Star a brief visit.

Recent guests of Mrs. Stella Smith were Robert Green and Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Hickman and family of Slaton. Mr. and Mrs. Hickman also visited Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Griggs and Mr. and Mrs. Ace Hickman, Sunday, December 9. Mrs. Smith served Christmas dinner to twenty-two guests.

## We Invite—

JAMES C. HAYS  
And his guest to attend any picture advertised for the coming week at the Plaza Theatre in Baird.  
We want you to be our guests.  
The PLAZA THEATRE  
THE BAIRD STAR





# The Season's Cheer to Everybody

Because we are proud to number you among our friends we send you these Christmas Greetings. May this Christmas bring added pleasures of true health and happiness to every one of you.

May the coming New Year bring you every happiness, and the fullness of success reward your efforts in all your undertakings.

**Callahan Abstract Co.**

### ATTENTION—ALL OLD-TIMERS

#### LETS GIVE AUNT MARY SLAUGHTER, EASTERN STAR HOME, ARLINGTON, A SHOWER OF CHRISTMAS CARDS AND SMALL GIFTS.

Aunt Mary is 92 years of age, has been a bed-fast hospital patient two years.

I asked a friend of mine who has recently gone to live in the Masonic Home, to inquire about Aunt Mary Slaughter. She went to see her at once. Aunt Mary was delighted to see her and asked about so, so many Callahan County people. My friends knowledge of Mary's people was limited, since she has never lived in Callahan County.

Send her a card and tuck in a note telling her all the things you know she would like to know about you and yours. If you care to include a gift, the following list will interest you. I sent a list of gifts which might contribute to Aunt Mary's welfare and asked the Superintendent to give her opinion regarding them. Seems her diet is restricted. She replied:

White, long sleeved, cotton gowns, size 42—very important because they have been so hard to get. (I'm sending two.) She added: "These ladies like to have some change occasionally, so they can send out for ice-cream, etc. Aunt Mary never asks for these things, but we get cream for her sometimes and she enjoys it like a child. She is so appreciative of everything that it is a pleasure to care for her. She really loves her people and will enjoy the shower of cards, I'm sure."

Capt. and Mrs. Willie Ferguson were recent guests in Clyde in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Ferguson and with Mrs. Ferguson's sister, Mrs. Harry Steen, and family, Captain Ferguson, a pilot on a B-24, and Lt. Don Paar, bombardier, from Iowa, met him here for a visit, the first time they had met since they landed in the States six months ago. They completed 50 missions together in the European theater of operations. Captain and Mrs. Ferguson have gone to Los Angeles, Calif. to live. He received his discharge from the service December 8.

Paul Stewart Dulaney, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Dulaney of Clyde, arrived home from Kearns, Utah, where he received his discharge from the Army Air Forces. He had been in the service four years and will reenter Abilene Christian College after the first of the year.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Scott of Clyde and daughter have moved to Abilene where Scott has been employed. He recently received his discharge from the service.

### MISS BURMA WARREN HOSTESS TO CORINNE BLACKBURN CLUB

The Corinne Blackburn Club met in the home of Miss Burma Warren December 5th. The subject was the "Bible" and the roll call was answered with "Nativity Questions. A most inspiring talk was given by Mrs. Faye Alexander on "The Wives of the Bible." Jake Elliot took over the duties of the recording secretary, Leota Alexander, who has been given a leave of absence due to her job in Stephenville which makes it impossible for her to attend. Mrs. Eddie Konczak was elected as a new member. Delicious refreshments were served in the social hour to Clara Nell Bar, Waldin Briscoe, Jake Elliott, Geneva Jo Gibson, Joyce Hunt, Carrie Lofland, Ila Meador, Margie Ray, Hazel Reynolds, Madge Scott, Lela Shults, Lorraine Waldrop, Hattie West, Maurine Williams, Mrs. L. L. Blackburn and the hostess.

### PLAN TO HELP VETERANS ON FARM OWNERSHIP

A plan for helping veterans to get started on the road to farm ownership in appreciation for their services was suggested this week by Nathan A. Waldrop, County Farm Security Supervisor. "All of us want to help returning veterans get re-established in civilian life but often don't know how to go about it," explained Mr. Waldrop. "Several qualified farm veterans in Callahan county are now looking for farms they can purchase at reasonable prices or can lease for a three to five year period. Each is eligible for an FSA farm ownership or operating goods loan, if he can find a farm priced in terms of what it can earn over a period of years."

Farmers planning retirement or non-farming landowners can make farm ownership possible for a veteran by agreeing to sell their farm on the basis of an impartial earning capacity appraisal by the three local farmers who make up the County FSA Committee. Mr. Waldrop said. There is no charge for an appraisal or no obligation to sell involved, although a farm ownership loan cannot exceed \$12,000. If the landowner prefers not to sell, a three to five year written lease can also help a veteran get started.

"If an experienced farm veteran with livestock and equipment or resources for farm operations can find a suitable farm, he is eligible under the GI bill for a bankhead - Jones 40-year farm ownership loan at three per cent interest," said Mr. Waldrop. "If he can secure a three to five year written lease on a family farm and cannot finance needed livestock and equipment, he is eligible for an operating goods loan up to \$2,500 that can include household goods, minor building repairs, and advance cash rent."

### PRICES ADVANCE ON IRISH POTATOES

The United States Department of Agriculture Saturday announced the Irish potato price support program for the 1946 crop. The program assures not less than 90 percent of parity, E. A. McBryde, District Officer for Marketing, said.

Although the program for the 1946 potato crop is similar in general to the price support program in effect for the past few years, it differs in two major details. Under the program announced Saturday, there is to be no advance announcement of support price for grades below U. S. No. 1 at fixed amounts or at fixed percentages of applicable prices for U. S. No. 1 grade. Instead, the department will support prices of lower grades, exclusive of culls, at such times, in such areas, by such means, and at such prices as will be necessary to carry out USDA's price support obligations. In this connection it is pointed out that the department may prescribe conditions governing disposition of grades lower than U. S. No. 1 which would need to be met before U. S. No. 1 grade potatoes would be eligible for support.

The second difference is that announced support prices are based on prices, effective at a stage of distribution described as "in bulk, loaded on truck at farmer's gate." Formerly support prices were at f. o. b. level. Actual price to be received by any grower participating in price support operation, therefore, will be the applicable base price, adjusted for value of marketing service actually performed as prescribed by USDA. Specific allowances for marketing services will be announced before support operations are undertaken.

Prices of early and intermediate crop potatoes will be supported by direct purchases, and if necessary, by diversion to other than normal trade channels, including exports, industrial, and food outlets. Late crop potato prices will be supported by loans, supplemented where necessary and practicable by diversion to export, industrial, and food outlets.

Provisions of specific purchase and diversion programs will be announced when operations begin. In case of loan program, however, a full announcement will be made soon as all details have been worked out.

### TEXAS CENTENNIAL POSTAGE STAMP

Postmaster General Robert E. Hannegan has announced the issuance of a special postage stamp commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of the admission of Texas to statehood. The stamp will be of the 3-cent denomination and will be placed on first-day sale at Austin on December 29, 1945. Buchanan Winn, artist of Wimberly, where he has a ranch-studio, designed the stamp.

The first sheet of 100 stamps will be reserved for the Centennial Commission, Karl Hohlitzelle, chairman.

Stamp collectors and others desiring official Centennial of Statehood first-day or later cancellations of the 3-cent Texas stamp may send their orders for as many envelopes as they desire, accompanied with remittance for the stamp to be affixed plus five cents for the cost of addressing each envelope desired, to the Headquarters of the Texas Centennial of Statehood Commission, Austin, Texas, or to A. Garland Adair, Curator of History, Texas Memorial Museum, Austin.

The Texas stamp will be .84 by 1.44 inches in size, arranged horizontally with a single line border. The central design comprises the American flag with a ray shining from the twenty-eighth star to the single star of the Texas State flag. On the left side in a verticle panel is the word "Texas" in white face Gothic on a shaded background. The wording "United States Postage" appears in a panel across the bottom of the stamp in white face Gothic on a dark background. To the left of the center, above the bottom panel, there appears in dark Gothic lettering "Statehood" and the dates "1845-1946" in two lines. In the upper right corner is the denomination designation "3c" in dark Gothic.

Mrs. John Kennard entertained with a dinner at her ranch home north of Clyde, she was assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Homer Kennard. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Hampton, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Berry, and Mr. and Mrs. John T. Bailey.

Mrs. Joe South and son, Joe Donald, have returned to Clyde from a three months visit with Mr. and Mrs. Jack South in Washington, D. C. Mrs. South is the former Helen Harrelson.

Recent guests in the home of Capt. Hudson Anderson of Ft. Worth visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Z. Anderson, over the weekend.

J. R. Reynolds arrived home Sunday discharged from Chanute Field, Ill.

# Cordial Christmas Greetings

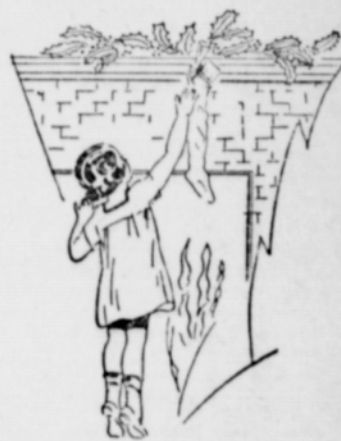


## and A Happy New Year

This firm extends to its friends and patrons its best wishes for a Happy Christmas and trusts that our services will merit the continuance of your good will.

The loyalty of our friends has been of material benefit in bringing us a little closer to our goal of achievement.

We are glad that this particular world in which we live, has friends . . . and CHRISTMAS!



**Brashear Food Store**

# MAY THE LIGHTS ON YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE BURN BRIGHTLY

And sparkle with the joy and happiness that we wish for you and yours at this glad time of the year.

It has been a pleasure to serve you in the past and we are at your service in the future. Please call on us at any time as we deem it a distinct privilege to serve in whatever manner we can. We cordially invite your continued patronage.



Merry Christmas

AND A VERY

Happy New Year

**Municipal Light Plant**

Owned By The People of Baird

# SINCERE WISHES

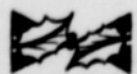
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## JOYFUL CHRISTMAS and a very Happy New Year

It is with all the earnestness within our hearts that we express our cordial Christmas Greetings to all those whom we have had the pleasure of serving during the past twelve months. Our good wishes go with each of you as you enter

into the spirit of this occasion with your loved ones and friends.

We appreciate your patronage and pledge anew to improve our service in every way possible to merit its continuance.



**Morgan's Food Store**



**VETERAN OF ETO ARRIVES HOME**

M-Sgt Robert L. Jones, a veteran of ETO two years, arrived home December 6 after discharge at Fort Sam Houston December 5. Sgt. Jones was awarded the Meritorious Service Wreath. His Ordance Base Depot supplied the Seventh Army when it invaded Southern France. He was also in North Africa, Italy, and Corsica. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Jones.

Beryle Jones CMM is expected to arrive from Los Angeles, Calif. in time to spend Christmas with his parents, Mr and Mrs. G. B. Jones. After five and one-half years in the Pacific Theater, he spent four months in the Atlantic prior to his return to the states.

**HAROLD ALEXANDER HOME**

S-Sgt. Harold Alexander arrived December 1 from Guam and Saipan, where he had been stationed six months with the 501st Bomb Group with the B 29's. He wears the Asiatic-Pacific battle ribbon with two stars. Sgt. Alexander was discharged at Ft. Bliss December 1. He had been in the Army Air Corps four years. He is the son of Mr and Mrs. J. E. Alexander of this place. His wife and son, Harold Lloyd made their home here with her parents, Mr and Mrs. G. B. Jones, while Sgt. Alexander was across.

S-Sgt. Norman Dunn, son of Mr and Mrs. G. T. Dunn of Clyde has arrived home from two years in the South Pacific. He received his discharge at Fort Sam Houston last week. Dunn was in the service 42 months.

**GUARD CHILDEN AGAINST WINTER HEALTH HAZARDS**

Austin, Texas, Young children may suffer as much from winter illnesses as they do from those commonly known as "summer complaints," the opinion of Dr. Geo. W. Cox, State Health Officer, and his advice to parents is to guard babies and young children against these winter health hazards.

Influenza, tonsilitis, pneumonia, bronchitis, and asthma are included among those diseases which may be dangerous winter illnesses among young children since they affect the respiratory or breathing system. Pneumonia, in particular, may develop from neglected cold, it may follow as an aftereffect of measles or whooping cough, or it may occur suddenly and with very little warning. Diseases of the respiratory system are more prevalent in winter than in summer and are much more difficult to combat than digestive ailments such as summer complaint.

"These winter diseases are especially dangerous to babies and young children," Dr. Cox stated. "Nearly all of them are spread through the secretions from the nose and mouth. Children not in vigorous health are naturally more susceptible to these complaints and the first line of defense," Dr. Cox cautioned, "is to strengthen the powers of resistance against disease; the second is to keep them under medical supervision and the third is to make sure they avoid contact with others who have coughs, colds, or fevers."

**WISDOM IN A LINE**

How to make a few words into a "mouthful of good sense" was demonstrated this week by the Union Register, of Union, N. Y., with the following: A correspondent suggests that what civilization has to be careful for now is to make sure that World War II shall continue to be world war won.

**HAMILTON COUNTY OVER THE TOP**

Texas had an object lesson today from two war veterans who led Hamilton County over the top of its Victory Loan quotas.

They are Captain Bob Miller, county chairman of the drive, and the Rev. J. F. Isbell, Lt-Col. retired, Hico, Texas, drive chairman. Col. Isbell is now pastor of the Methodist church in Hico after serving as an Army chaplain in both World War I and II.

Captain Miller announced that E Bond sales totaled \$146,250. The county's quota was \$145,000. Captain Miller said he marshalled a force of Victory Volunteers who contacted nearly everyone of the 15,000 residents in the county. In the little Blue Ridge Community, the E bond quota was set at \$4,985. The Blue Ridge people sailed over the quota and chalked up bond sales totaling \$11,000.

Captain Miller is on terminal leave and will be discharged from the Army Dec. 22. He served overseas 3 1-2 years and saw action in North Africa, Sicily, Italy and France. He was captured by the Germans and was a prisoner of war in Poland when the war ended.

Col. Isbell, whose son was killed in action, helped put Hamilton County over the top through his sales efforts in Hico.

"We hope that we have won a lasting peace," Col. Isbell said. "But after serving two wars, I know that we must do more than hope that there will never be another."

"The Victory Loan is an important phase of the program for peace. By supporting it, we are insuring our future safety. Hamilton County is proud of its record in the Victory Loan but we know the same thing can be accomplished throughout Texas.

"Every time we buy a Victory Bond, we are cementing the peace foundation. And remember, that foundation can't be paved with good intentions. Two wars have gone a long way toward finishing the job. The rest is up to us."

**CAPT. RANDALL JACKSON ARRIVED HERE TUESDAY**

Capt. Randall C. Jackson arrived here Tuesday.

Jackson is one of 756 high-point Army veterans whom the "Magic Carpet" brought back to the States aboard the U. S. S. SHIPLY BAY.

The U. S. S. SHIPLY BAY— one of more than 250 carriers battleships, cruisers, and attack transports in the Navy's famed "Magic Carpet" fleet—left Pearl Harbor, December 5, and is scheduled to arrive in San Pedro about Tuesday, December 11.

Passengers will go directly to the Separation Centers nearest their homes to complete the formalities of obtaining their discharge before returning to civilian life.

**CLYDE SERVICE MAN VISITS HOME**

Lynn G. Petterson S 1-c R. M., with his wife and two sons, Charles Lynn and Larry from Monohans, are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Petterson of Clyde. Seaman Petterson returned to the States on the U. S. S. Bennington. He served on this ship while in the Pacific. Bombers from the Bennington helped bomb Japan during the final stages of the war, and was standing off Tokyo Bay when the Japanese surrendered.

**COTTON GINNING REPORT**

Census report shows that 1158 bales of cotton were ginned in Callahan County, Texas from the crop of 1945 prior to December 1 as compared with 2492 bales for the crop of 1944.

**JOHN H. SHRADER Special Agent**

Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Walker were called to Strawn Thursday evening to attend the funeral of their nephew, Albert Yell, which was conducted Saturday at 3 p. m. Mr. Yell was instantly killed in a car wreck Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. L. R. Latham and baby, Monette, of Robert Lee are in Clyde as guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Ray.

**LADIES NIGHT FEAST HOSTED BY CLUB**

An annual ladies' night banquet was held Tuesday evening in the Methodist church by members of the Clyde Luncheon club.

H. E. Swofford, president of the club, presided, and the Rev. Jesse B. Leverett gave the invocation. E. F. Butler was in charge of the program and principal speaker

was the Rev. Jesse B. Leverett. Mrs. Martina Maywald presented a reading. Mr and Mrs H. L. Boring and two sons sang Silent Night, and the Rev Aubrey White played an accordin solo. Mrs. R. C. Clemer presented a piona solo. The program was concluded with a short talk by Swofford and a prayer given by H. L. Boring.

*A Joyous Noel*

We sincerely hope your Christmas will be filled to overflowing with happiness and good cheer and may the New Year be one of Health, and Prosperity



**PARSONS Electric & Refrigeration Shop**

*Wishing you all the joys of the season and a New Year filled with Happiness!*

**RAMSEY Variety & Hdw' Store**

*May All Happiness Be Yours*

As you enjoy the contentment and merriment of the Yuletide, we want you to know that we will be thinking of you and of the amicable associations that have been ours during the time we have been serving this community.

It is these friendships that bind our ambitions, to be of the utmost service to all.

**IT'S CHRISTMAS**

MAY YOURS BE A MERRY ONE AND THE NEW YEAR FILLED WITH JOY AND HAPPINESS

**BOWLUS HARDWARE**

**WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS**

We send you sincere and hearty greetings, full of good cheer for each of you. And may the coming twelve months find you happy and contented in your every undertaking.



AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

**Williams Grocery**

**MAYFIELD'S**

*Wishing You a Joyous Holiday...*

May your share of happiness at this glad Christmastime be brightened by the knowledge of our appreciation of your fine and valued friendships.

May you enjoy the associations of those dear to you, and may their companionship continue through the years to come.

*Happy Christmas to all!*

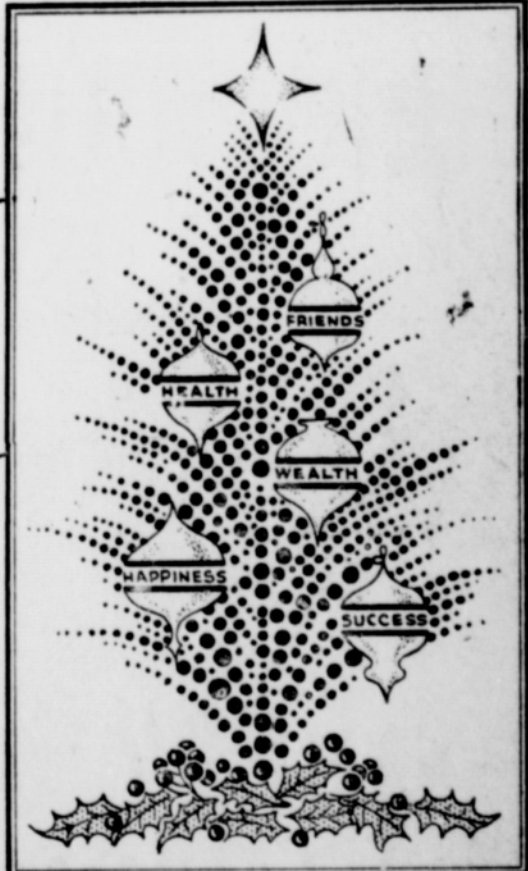
**Jones Dry Goods**

**THIS IS OUR WISH FOR YOU**

Every business, regardless of size or type; every individual, is dependent upon someone else for support and existence. Our business is dependent upon our many loyal friends who have favored us in scores of ways during the past year.

It may have been through your patronage . . . it may have been a kind word of cheer . . . or it may have been an expression in our behalf to some friend of yours . . . but, in whatever way you may have favored us, we are thankful.

It is our hope that each of you may receive the blessings of a joyous Yuletide Season.



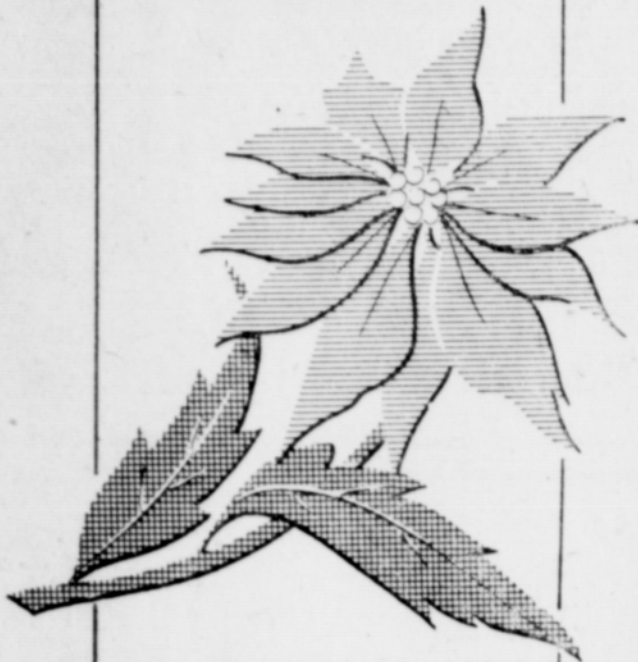
**MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**RAY MOTOR COMPANY**



# THE YULETIDE SEASON

BRINGS A  
JOYOUS GREETING  
TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS



In this most cordial of holidays, when joy prevails everywhere, may we bring a message of Good Cheer to each of you, and express a sincere wish that the coming year holds the realization of your fondest hopes and ambitions.

**Home Telephone & Electric Company**

## CLASSIFIED

IF You want to sell your farm or house in Baird, call me at once. I have inquiries from buyers every day.—B. H. Freeland.

FOR SALE—Hot point electric range, Frigidaire bottle cooler. Parsons Electric and Refrigeration Shop.

I buy and sell Cars. Bring me your Used Car. Highest prices. J. T. South, Clyde, Texas. 3tc.

FOR SALE—ABC Washing Machine, excellent condition. Parsons Electric and Refrigeration Shop.

PECANS—Burkett paper shell, 40c pound at orchard, 2 miles south of Eula. Cecil Harris, Clyde, Route 1. 4tp

ALTERATION SHOP—Experienced alteration on new and old garments. Located at my house in Clyde. 2nd house off south side of high way, 1 1/2 blocks north of school house. Mrs. Lena Melton. tf

If it is buttons you want, I make beautiful plastic buttons. I also put ilet in belts and brad on snap fasteners. Mrs. Sam (Tots) Wristen. 2tp.

FOR SALE—1936 Chevrolet coupe, 3 good tires, below ceiling.—R. L. Griggs, Jr.

I buy and sell Cars. Bring me your Used Car. Highest prices. J. T. South, Clyde, Texas. 3tc.

STRAYED: White face dehorned cow branded W on left hip, with heifer calf. Please write Box 485, Abilene, Texas. 6tp.

We have three experienced mechanics at our garage to give you quick, efficient service. Hi-Way Garage. 4tc.

Come and register for new Maytag washing machine. First come, first serve. J. T. Loper. tfn

I buy and sell Cars. Bring me your Used Car. Highest prices. J. T. South, Clyde, Texas. 3tc.

FOR SALE—Oil stove and farm wagon.—S. C. Walker, Route 1, Baird. 2tp.

STRAYED—Hereford yearling, branded box (square) on left hip. Please notify Walter S. Finch, Baird, Star Rt. 2. 4tp.

FOR SALE—Screw tail bull dog puppies, ready to go now. Make fine Christmas presents.—Mrs. Lucille Putnam, Route 1, Clyde, Texas. 1tp.

WANTED TO BUY—Johnson grass hay. George Morgan. 2t.

LOST—Black purse December 11 containing O. E. S. Richual, P. O. and door keys. Finder keep money and return purse and other contents to The Baird Star. Mrs. Joe McGowen. 1t.

FOR SALE—3 desirable residential lots in west Baird. H. D. Driskill. 2t.

FOR SALE—1940 Pontiac club coupe, 1937 Dodge tudor, 1936 Ford fordor. J. T. South, Clyde, Texas. 2tc.



May we pause to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**T. R. French Service Station**



\*\*\* Greetings \*\*\*

Our Christmas message is best expressed by our sincere wish that you may have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

**Club Cafe**



**GREETINGS!**

With grateful acknowledgement of your courtesies and the evidences of your good will that have made the past year a pleasure to us, we wish you a Christmas of great joy and a New Year of Happiness and Prosperity.

We pledge ourselves to an even greater and more efficient service than ever before and in keeping with this policy, we respectfully solicit your continued friendship and patronage.

We are glad to announce that Mrs. Iva Gillit is back with us.

**Lucille's Beauty Shop**

# CHRISTMAS



It is that time of the year when we like to stop a few minutes to wish our friends all the good things of the Season.

It is the wish of every member of this organization that after this Christmas you will say this is by far the happiest you have ever spent.

Best of luck for the New Year.

**GLEN BOYD  
Grocery & Market**

# MERRY CHRISTMAS



# HAPPY NEW YEAR

A SINCERE GREETING TO OUR MANY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS.



**Holmes Drug Co.**



Wishing All Our Friends  
**A Merry Christmas**  
And A Prosperous  
**New Year**

TEXAS' OWN.. **IMPERIAL SUGAR** 100% PURE CANE





With  
Every Wish for

# HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

and a Year  
of Happy Days

## MAC'S SERVICE STATION

### BEAR FACTS

(From The High School)

#### EDITORIAL

Christmas is here once again. For the Seniors it is the last one among the other students of our dear school. Each of us will remember this time almost as much as graduation.

Our New Year's resolution is that we will strive to do things in the future that will help all people.

#### BEAUTY CONTEST

The Senior Class sponsored the Annual Beauty Contest which was held in the High School Auditorium Tuesday night December 11.

Each girl was sponsored by some business house of Baird. There were 54 girls entered and three places awarded.

Sue Edwards, sponsored by the Plaza Theatre was awarded 1st place. Rosa Jones, representative of Johnson Motor Company placed second. Aand Madge Loper representative of City Pharmacy was third.

The 1st place winner will have a full page picture in the annual. Mrs. Hill took charge of the program during the intermissions. The favorites were presented along with the winners.

#### FRESHMAN NEWS

The Freshman class is to have a christmas party on Friday December 21 at Gayle Dyers house. The party will began at 7:30 p. m.

#### SOPHOMORE CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Sophomore class will have its annual Christmas party Thursday night, December 20 at 7:30. The party will be held at the U. S. O. canteen. The room mothers sponsoring this party are: Mrs. Gilliland, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Tyson, Mrs. Swinson, Mrs. Bowlus. Our class sponsor is Mrs. McElroy.

#### JUNIOR NEWS

The Junior Class is planning to have a Christmas party Friday night. The class drew names for gifts last week. There will be games and exchanging of gifts. I'm sure everyone will have a swell time.

#### SENIOR NEWS

The Senior Class is planning to have a Christmas Party at Betty Lou Hamilton's the 21st. The class drew names the past week. Games of all sorts will be played and gifts exchanged. The room mothers will serve. All in all the class plans a great time.

#### LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,  
Please bring my gifts to the "poor house." That's where I'll be when I've paid the Christmas bills.

Thanks,  
Mr. South

Dear Santa,  
I have tried to be a good girl. Football season is over, so I would like to have a bottle of headache tablets for Christmas. And please, Santa, if I am Pep Squad sponsor again next year, bring me a good Pep Squad.

Your Friend,  
Mrs. Banks

Dear Santa,  
The best Christmas present of all would be no more rainy weather and muddy roads.

Love You,  
Mrs. Nichols

Dear Santa,  
There is only one thing I lack to make my Christmas complete; that is a date to the football banquet. If you could arrange it, I'm sure I will have a swell Christmas.

Your old Pal,  
Betty Lou Hamilton

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a toy-cap pistol for Christmas.

Yours truly,  
Earl Lee Hinds

Dear Santa,  
All I ask for Christmas is a year's supply of good newsy gossip and I'm sure my Christmas will be Merry.

A Pal,  
Rosa Pauline Jones

Dear Santa,  
The best gift you could bring me would be no more demerits for the remainder of the year. With this as a present anyone could have a Merry Christmas.

Your friend,  
Corky Cook

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I would like for everyone to check their book in on time and pay their dues.

Thanks,  
Betsy Hickman

Dear Santa,  
Bring me anything for Christmas except books, as I never read them.

Love,  
Jerol Price.

Dear Santa,  
All I ask for is a white Christmas and for Putnam to stay at home.

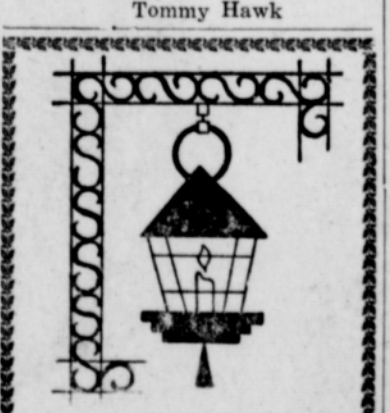
Yours truly,  
Buddy Brame

Dear Santa,  
Please give me a X-Ray so I can find that watch.

Love,  
Ruby Joyce

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a complete set of Compton's Encyclopedia and Shakespear.

A friend,  
Tommy Hawk



### Best Wishes

For a Christmas day filled with happiness and a New Year that's filled with blessings.

**SHELNUTT'S Service Station**

Dear Santa,  
I've been a very good boy. Please bring me lots of money so I can go to the mid-night show. As of now, I can't afford it.

Gene Faircloth

Dear Santa,  
Don't bring my basket ball players too many sweets for Christmas. Postpone them until the season ends. You can bring me a complete set of victories for my team.

Thanks Santa,  
Coach White

Dear Santa,  
I have been nice and made good grades all year. The best Christmas present I can think of is lots of good popping chewing gum.

Joyce Tyson



### A JOYOUS SEASON

With many good wishes for your health and happiness.

**Medford Walker**



### DEPOT CAFE

### GET PHOTOCOPIES

OF VALUED ORIGINALS HERE!

Quickly! Accurately! At Low Cost!

We Photocopy ANYTHING



Letters, Charts, Blue Prints, Pictures, Financial Papers, Clippings, Specifications, Tracings, Contracts, Reports, Records . . . More than 100 others!

Save typing and checking time with permanent, error-proof, legally-accepted photocopies of anything written, printed, typed, drawn or photographed. We make same size photocopies of any original up to 18" x 22" . . . negative and positive . . . even if material is on both sides!

All work is done in strictest confidence. Each print is given expert attention. Your choice of mat or glossy paper. For speed and results at low cost, call our Photocopy Service. NOW!

INSURANCE BONDS FINANCING

**Callahan Abstract Co.**

## GREYHOUND BUS SERVICE FULLY RESUMED!



You can take that trip now—  
in comfort, at low cost, on most convenient schedules

Greyhound buses are rolling again, to thousands of cities and towns, near and far, throughout the United States. As always, they offer amazingly low fares, a wide range of convenient schedules, frequent departures. The old wartime

taboos are gone. Today you can travel freely by Greyhound—faster schedules are back, saving hours on many trips. Of course, it is smart to choose midweek days—and to plan your trip a few days before or after holidays, if you can.



MERRY CHRISTMAS  
and  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



And may we add our sincere thanks for the many kindnesses that you have shown us in the past.

Because of your consideration the past year has been an enjoyable experience, one in which we have had the confidence and esteem of the people whom we serve. We only hope that we may continue to merit your good will and patronage, so that our policy of friendly, helpful service to all may be maintained.

**W. D. Boydston**







To Our Loyal Customers  
May your every wish come true—in this coming year and those following.

HAPPY NEW YEAR  
★ ★ ★

White Elephant Exchange

**CROSS PLAINS BANK DEPOSITS LARGEST IN HISTORY; IN EXCESS OF \$1,600,000**

Deposits in the Citizens State Bank of Cross Plains now stand in excess of \$1,600,000, according to Fred V. Tunnell, vice president. This is the largest figure on deposit in the history of the institution, he said.

In a director's meeting Tuesday afternoon, the usual semi-annual dividend of five percent was declared, payable January 1st.

Directors voted to pay a bonus of one month's salary to each employee, as a Christmas gift. An annual meeting of stockholders will be held in January, after which the new board of directors and officials will be announced.

**RADIO IN YOUR POCKET**

Translating its wartime achievement in developing radar proximity fuses into peacetime jobs and production, a Midwestern manufacturing firm is bringing out a midget radio receiving set that a man can carry in his vest pocket or a woman in her purse.

A five-tube superheterodyne portable, the set weighs only 10 ounces batteries. It will retail for about \$30.

**INDUSTRY**

New orders, new products, and new expansion projects continued to set a pace for industry this week as plants from coast to coast tackled the problems of peacetime operations.

In the field of new markets, Henry Kaiser, shipbuilder-industrialist of San Francisco, announced that his Montana plant had been awarded the first major contract for the industrial rehabilitation of France. It called for 55,000 tons of semi-finished steel products over a four-month period.

Mr. Kaiser, who has been spearheading a drive to develop an independent steel industry in the West, said that shipments would start immediately. He also announced plans for returning to magnesium metal production as soon as process changes can be completed at his San Jose plant.

During that war this plant produced 20,000,000 pounds of ingot and 80,000,000 pounds of incendiary metal.

France, also, was giving stimulus to locomotive builders with prospective purchase of 500 steam locomotives at an approximate cost of \$55,000,000. Two contracts were expected, one for 400 locomotives, and the second for 100.

Additional purchase of 140 locomotives from Canadian firms was also projected by a French buying mission, it was reported. Representing a total outlay of more than \$70,000,000, the 640 locomotives will be added to 700 which are now being built and which the mission seeks to acquire through the U. S. War Department, Baldwin, American and Lima locomotive works will be the chief beneficiaries of the combined buying program.

New products and new plants went hand in hand during the week as General Tire & Rubber Company, of Akron, O., and the Liquid Carbonic Corporation, of Chicago, announced joint manufacture of a new combination refrigerator and freezing unit called "Froster." A new \$1,000,000 plant will be built at Morrison, Ill., for production.

The new home appliance was described as having 7½ cubic feet of space for refrigeration and 3½ cubic feet for the freezing unit. Each compartment has its own cooling unit.

Other expansion projects were: RENO, NEV.—Construction of a \$500,000 plant by the Rocky Mountain Manufacturing Company for window frame production.

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.—Announcement of a \$500,000 plant enlargement program by the Singer Manufacturing company.

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.—Purchase of a building by Irving Lusk, Inc., manufacturer of raincoats.

ATLANTA — Announcement that industrial construction totalling \$440,547,000 led all other types of construction in the South where a general 30 per cent increase was reported for the first 11 months of 1945.

**HUMBLE SCHEDULES NEW PIPE LINE**

Humble Pipe Line Company is scheduled to begin construction early in January of 275-mile, six-inch gasoline pipe line from Humble's huge Baytown refinery to a point in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, it was announced today. Total cost of the line and Humble Oil & Refining Company's storage and other facilities at terminals along the route was estimated by Humble officials as approximating \$3,000,000.

The project is designed to bring to inland consumers the quality petroleum products made possible by Humble's two fluid catalytic cracking units and other advanced refining equipment built at Baytown during the war to meet military demand for superior fuels and lubricants in enormous quantities.

Four terminals, each with adequate storage and distribution facilities, will be built on the line. From each of these terminals it is expected that truck deliveries will be made to serve the adjacent trade areas. The first of these terminals will be located near Houston; others will be at Hearne, at Waco, and the final one in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Humble Pipe Line engineers supervising the construction project give the following specifications on the line: It will be an all-welded type line with double wrap; two pump stations, the originating station at Baytown refinery and a booster station at Hearne, will speed the gasoline on its way to the several terminals.

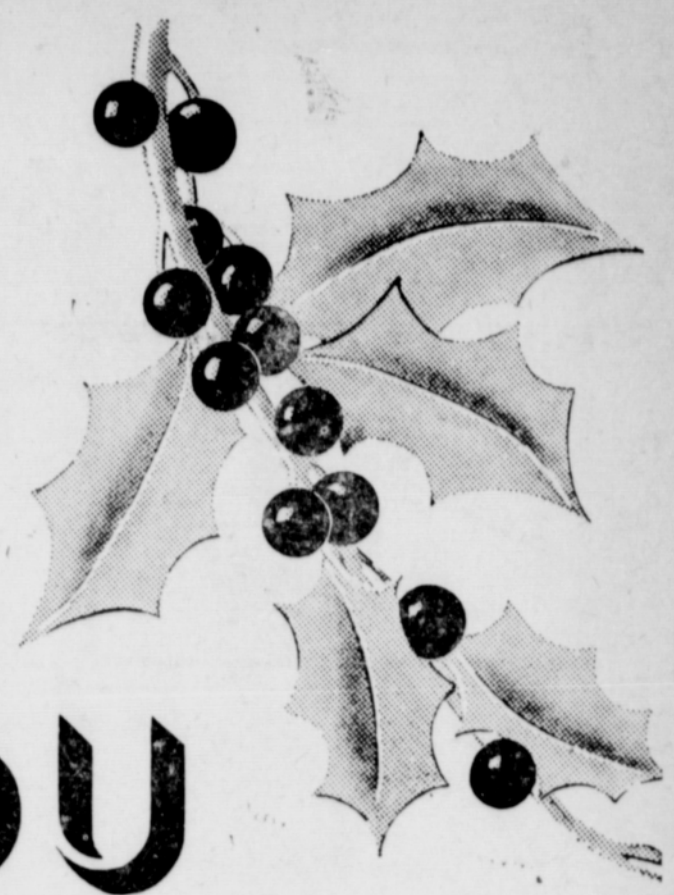
Following completion of the line, probably sometime in the latter part of June 1946, Humble Line Company will operate it. The Sales Department of the Company, however, will operate terminals and distribution facilities, Company officials said.

Mrs. John Kennard in Clyde were Billie Jane Yarbro of Abilene, Grace Tarpay, a student at Hardin Simmons University, Capt. A. S. Martin of Quanah, and Lirst Lt. M. H. Hughes of Abilene.

Martin and Hughes, nephews of Mrs. Kennard, have recently returned to Clyde from overseas duty with the army air forces.

Sgt. Robert Wristin left Sunday for San Diego, Calif. for discharge after spending a furlough here.

Irby Smith and Wilbur Briscoe will be discharged January 2 at San Diego, Calif.



to wish

**YOU**

a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year

From a firm that has enjoyed serving you in the past, and which is desirous of continuing the pleasant associations of our friends in the future.

**City Pharmacy**

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS**

To our faithful old friends and our cherished new friends, we say

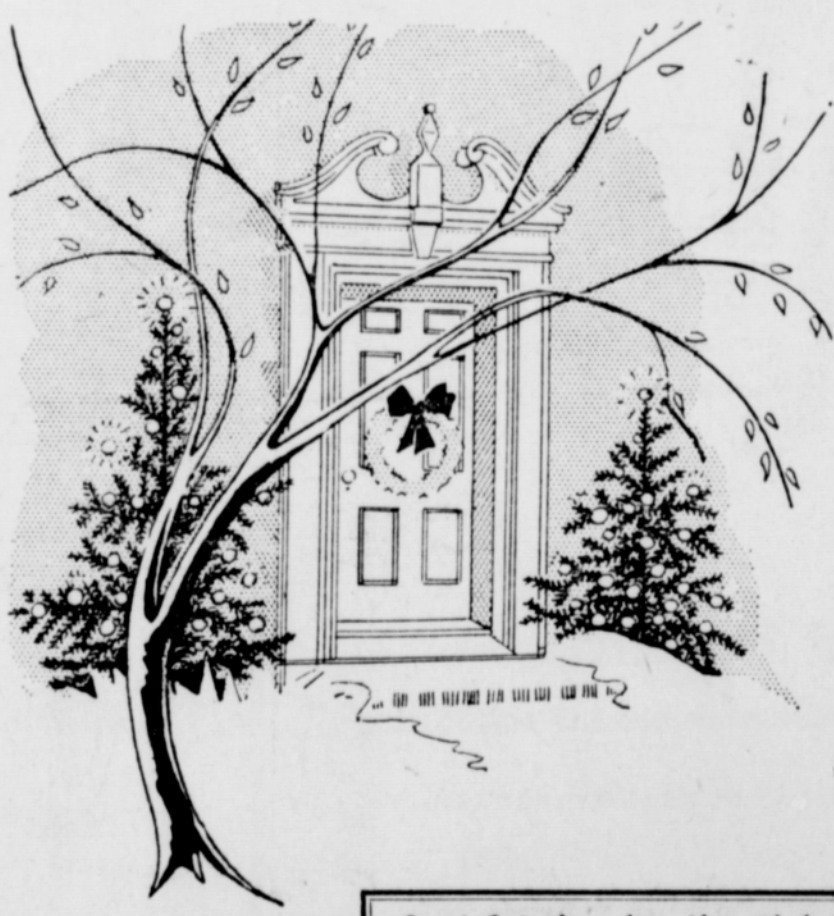
May the New Year be a happy and thriving one for you, and may it be our privilege to add to its success.



**GRAY'S STYLE SHOP**

**LOOKING FORWARD AT CHRISTMASTIME**

*Greetings*



With the splendid remembrances of the harmonious associations we have had with our many good friends in this area during the past, we eagerly look forward to a continuance of them in the future.

We sincerely hope that these friendships have been as pleasant to you as they have been to us.

May this be your happiest Christmas and may the New Year bring you some new joy each day.

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season 

**SUTPHEN MOTOR CO.**

Dodge - Plymouth Passenger Cars  
Dodge Job-Rated Trucks

**McElroy Dry Goods**

Baird, Texas





## Milton Duncan On Way Home

PEARL HARBOR, T. H.—Milton Duncan, SF1c, USNR, husband of Mrs. Gladys G. Duncan, of Baird, Texas is on his way home.

Duncan is one of 952 high-point Navy veterans whom the "Magic Carpet" is bringing back to the States aboard the U. S. S. WARREN.

The U. S. S. WARREN—one

of more than 250 carriers, battleships, cruisers, and attack transports in the Navy's famed "Magic Carpet" fleet—left Guam, December 1, and is scheduled to arrive in San Diego about December 18.

Passengers will go directly to Separation Centers nearest their homes to complete the formalities of obtaining their discharges before returning to civilian life.



## Light after Darkness

This is our brightest Christmas in a long, dark time. Every light on every tree—every window that greets night with cheerful challenge—is a shining symbol of the passing of war's shadow.

There is radiant happiness in family gatherings this year. Men are coming home from war. And those who hear their Christmas carols under strange skies are closer, nearer to home than they have been in a great while.

For many, this will be a wistful Christmas—but a Christmas brave and strong in the knowledge that those who bought victory so dearly will make tomorrow's world a brighter place for us all.



**West Texas Utilities Company**

## TEXAS TAX VALUES NEAR 5 BILLION FOR NEW HIGH

AUSTIN, TEXAS—Taxable property values in Texas Friday neared the \$5,000,000,000 mark for a new high record.

Officials of the property assessment section of the Comptroller's office doubted, however that assessments would reach such a level unless reports from seven counties yet unreceived reflected unanticipated increases.

Annual reports received from assessor-collector of 212 counties revealed a net increase of \$163,963,840. In thirty-five counties there was a decline in values of \$18,439,896 while 177 counties had a gross gain of \$182,403,736.

Texas' property values, as measured in terms for taxation, have been on upward climb since the depression of the 1930s. The estimated total of values this year will be approximately \$1,125,000,000 more than the 1936 total of \$3,856,838,697.

Last year the rolls totalled \$4,814,280,482.

**Gains in 177 Counties.**  
That a general industrial growth contributed largely to this year's gain was reflected in the fact that gains occurred in 177 counties. In some prior years almost all of the increase have occurred in localized areas resulting from exploitation of some of the natural resources.

Dallas county continued its growth with a \$7,956,420 jump to \$379,131,830. The greatest gain, however, was in Harris County which rose \$17,483,580 to \$451,967,140. An even higher percentage gain was reflected by Jefferson County, where taxable values rose \$14,774,379 to \$153,962,120.

Development of gas fields resulted in some of the highest percentage gains thus far reported as Waller County's values bounded up \$8,091,635 to \$21,241,315 and Panola County's, by \$5,469,545 to \$12,606,195.

Montgomery County had a much higher than average gain with a boost of \$9,819,709 raising its total to \$61,985,204.

Nueces County with development of industries and its deep water commerce, gained \$8,629,470 to \$98,061,050. Oil development contributed largely to the gain in Wood County of \$4,559,120 to \$30,681,890, and of Jim Wells County of \$4,578,250 to \$31,258,650.

**Principal increases.**  
Other principal increase included: Andrews County, up \$4,779,658 to \$17,257,181; Brazoria County up \$4,063,843 to \$103,911,773; Crockett County up \$3,487,560 to \$10,683,931; Galveston County up \$2,419,172 to \$90,349,219; Henderson County up \$3,481,925 to \$16,991,305 and McLennan County up \$2,373,630 to \$69,613,800.

The principal reversal of the state-wide trend occurred in El Paso County, where the tax assessor-collector reported a drop of \$8,755,755 to \$71,875,260. Declines in sixteen of the thirty-five counties which had decreases were less than \$100,000.

Some of the largest decreases in values were: Rusk County, down \$1,184,320 to \$82,533,791; Wichita County, down \$1,027,725 to \$49,618,415; and Fort Bend County, down \$1,190,425 to \$32,023,310.

## EULA BROTHERS BACK IN STATES

Lee K. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Smith of the Eula community, has received his discharge after serving 46 months with the army, 38 months being spent overseas with the First Field hospital. He saw duty in New Zealand, Australia, New Guinea, and the Philippines, and was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific theater of operations ribbons with three battle stars, and the Philippines Liberation ribbon with one star, besides the good conduct medal. Before entering service he was a student in McMurry College.

Billy Paul Smith, pharmacist mate 2-c, entered the naval service January 1942 and was with the thirty-third Marine division in the invasion of Okinawa. He was with the Marines two years and overseas 12 months, and now wears the American theater and the Asiatic-Pacific ribbons with one battle star, besides the Victory ribbon.

Smith was seriously injured on Okinawa in an ambulance accident and since returning to the States was transferred to the Naval hospital in New Orleans, La. He will report there when his leave is over, January 1. His wife, the former Mary Ann Johnson of Atlantic City, Iowa, and his young son, Jeffrey Paul, met him here.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shults left Saturday to spend Christmas with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Shults in Rising Star and Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Abernathy in Palo Pinto.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Walley of Hannibal, Mo. visited Mrs. Walley's mother, Mrs. Kate Crawford, and her sister, Mrs. M. O. Morgan, for two weeks. While here she subscribed to The Star.



### All to Gain

Strikes in the automobile industry since V-J Day have cost the nation half a billion dollars in purchasing power already this year . . . and none of the big threatened strikes have occurred: This is the substance of a statement made to the press late in October by George Romney of the Automobile Manufacturers Association, in a position to speak for the whole industry.

In his supporting statements, Mr. Romney quoted figures which he is able to get in advance of any other news source. He declared that, on account of strikes in the plants of suppliers and makers of automobile parts, 350,000 fewer cars will be sold this year. Anybody old enough to drive a car knows this means 350 million dollars less money spent for cars this year.

### Everybody Hurt

Cars on the road are a symbol of money in circulation; people going places and spending. Hotels, health resorts, oil stations and motor maintenance shops are having business turned away from them by disputes. Prosperity follows the production of things useful and desirable for people who buy. Probably no useful thing enjoys a greater popular demand today than the automobile.

The strike, during the progress of America's worst war, actually retarded military production. Our generals said it hindered the delivery of machines and munitions to help America's fighting men win battles. And now it is interfering with the chances of those same men for getting steady jobs at good pay after they have finished winning the war. This is the road to economic ruin.

### Let Wages Advance

Speedy recovery is more important to the American people now than any money consideration or any point of pride being contended. I am a man of relatively small earning and I believe I can speak for millions of Americans who don't care how high wages go so long as they don't upset national economy. Moreover my faith in working men makes me believe they want no wage scale that will destroy jobs.

Ever since the automobile business grew out of its awkward age, it has operated on sound American principles: (1) Large investments in equipment, (2) more output per worker on account of the investment, (3) lower prices per car because of the big output, (4) more sales because of the low prices, (5) bigger profits because of the volume sales, and (6) higher wages made possible by more profits.

### Minutes Matter Now

The demand for automobiles is such today that car production per worker might exceed all records and still not satisfy the public appetite for new rolling stock. Until production rates dwarf all previous records, there is no visible limit to the earning power of a skilled automobile worker. But there is the rub! An enemy intervenes. The strike has thrown a brake on production.

A war-impooverished world is looking to the United States to win a hard game. Uncle Sam has passed the ball to Detroit, and it is down on the second yard line. Investments, yes; production, no! The opposition's squabble-play can defeat us. America has everything it takes to win but teamwork. Why not produce now to meet the needs of a desperate public, with the disputes to be settled later?

## AGRICULTURE AGENT FOR T. & P. APPOINTED

C. B. Senter, instructor in vocational agriculture for the past eighteen years in the public schools at Mt. Vernon and Van, Texas, is appointed to the post of Agriculture Agent of the Texas and Pacific Railway effective January 1, 1946, it is announced by Mr. L. C. Porter, assistant to the president.

In announcing this appointment, Mr. Porter said that Mr. Senter will work with Texas and Pacific local agents, county agents, and teachers of vocational agriculture throughout Texas in improving techniques and in the development of diversified agricultural programs in areas served by the railroad.

Mr. Senter, who is 41 years old and a native of Teague, Texas, will make his headquarters at Van, Texas.

Mr. Senter studied agriculture at Texas A. and M. college and was graduated in 1928 with a Bachelor of Science degree, and in 1937 with a Master of Science degree.

Entering the public schools system at Mt. Vernon, Texas, in 1928, as teacher of vocational agriculture, he inaugurated the first night classes in dairying ever to be held in that region, which now ranks as one of the outstanding dairy sections in East Texas.

Mr. Senter joined the school system in Van, Texas, in 1933 in a similar capacity. Here he held evening meetings of farmers and sponsored over fifty educational trips among farmers to principal agricultural sections throughout the south. The success of these measures is evident in the fact that east Van Zandt County—in which Van, Texas, is situated—annually ships from 150-200 carloads of tomatoes, sweet potatoes, turnips and other truck crops.

The new official is married and is the father of two children: Dick, ten, and Dot, six.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Deal arrived in Pekin, Ill., where they will make their home, last Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Vanzura and son of Brady visited the editor Thursday of last week. Mr. Vanzura is editor of the Brady Herald.

The C. O. Morgan home was destroyed by fire in Greggton December 6. Mrs. Morgan is the daughter of Mrs. Kate Crawford, Clyde, Route 2.

It can be done in Baird.

# MAY JOY THIS



# CHRISTMASTIDE

attend you and may new found blessings make the New Year more bright.

We gratefully acknowledge your consideration during the past and solicit your continued thoughtfulness.

## Baird Lumber Co.

## Merry Christmas to All



To Our Friends and Customers:

May you rejoice in the gladness of this Christmas Season and may the Spirit of Peace and Good Will remain with you always.

## Russell-Surles Adstract Co.

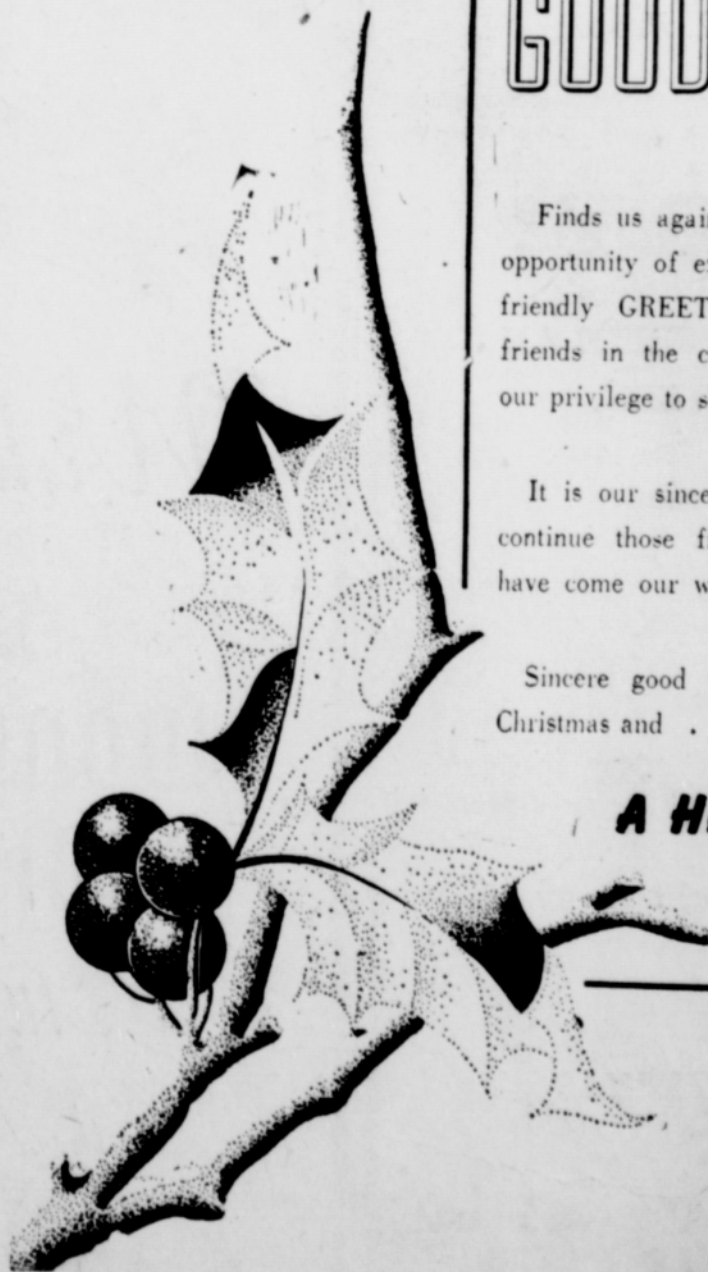
# THE SEASON OF GOOD CHEER

Finds us again eagerly awaiting the opportunity of expressing a warm and friendly GREETING to our hosts of friends in the community which it is our privilege to serve.

It is our sincere wish that we may continue those fine relationships that have come our way.

Sincere good wishes for a Joyful Christmas and . . .

## A HAPPY NEW YEAR



## B. L. Boydston Hardware



SATURDAY DEC. 22  
 ALLAN LADD  
 TOM LONDON  
 In  
**The Trail of  
 Kit Carson**  
 Plus  
 MYSTERY ISLAND NO. 9  
 And  
 OPEN SEASON FOR SAPS

OWL SHOW  
 SATURDAY NIGHT  
**Under Western  
 Skies**  
 And  
 BANDS ACROSS SEA

SUNDAY AND MONDAY  
 December 23-24  
 IDA LUPINO  
 SYDNEY GREENSTREET  
 WILLIAM PRINCE  
**Pillow To Post**  
 Plus  
 Bobbie Socks  
 And  
 PARAMOUNT NEWS

**PLAZA THEATRE**  
**MERRY  
 CHRISTMAS!**  
*Give to The National War Fund*

TUESDAY - WEDNESDAY  
 December 25-26  
**That's The Spirit**  
 With  
 JACK OAKIE  
 PEGGY RYAN  
 Plus  
 LITTLE STRANGER  
 And  
 PARAMOUNT NEWS

THURSDAY - FRIDAY  
 December 27-28  
**Nob Hill**  
 (In Technicolor)  
 With  
 GEORGE RAFT  
 JOAN BENNETT  
 VIVIAN BLAIN  
 PEGGY ANN GARNER  
 Plus  
 COLORFUL COLORADO



**THINKING OF YOU  
 THIS CHRISTMAS**

*W*E are wishing you  
 heaps of cheer and  
 hoping these wishes will bring  
 you joy every day of the year.

May your voyage through  
 the days ahead carry you over  
 pleasant ways to a new and  
 full contentment.

**EARL JOHNSON MOTOR CO.**

Baird, Texas

Phone 218

**AMAZING SUCCESS  
 STORY OF TALENTED  
 NINE YEAR OLD STAR**

Nine-year-old Twinkle Watts, Republic Studio's youngest star, currently appearing in "Trail of Kit Carson" at the Plaza Theatre has more talents to her credit than the average grown star. She is a national known ice skater, bowler, ballet dancer and singer.

The miraculous part of the success story of this young star is that Twinkle was stricken with the dread Polio germ when she was one year old, and for a baby who was never expected to walk again, to become a champion skater, dancer and bowler, is almost unbelievable.

Upon the advice of a famous physician, Twinkle's mother took her to an ice skating rink in the hope that Twinkle could find an outlet for her nervousness. Twinkle took to skates like a duck takes to water and in no time at all was imitating, then executing difficult figures which older skaters were unable to master in years of practice. Although the little star, then five years old, was featured with an ice skating troupe and became an over-night sensation, more important than anything else to her parents was the fact that their baby became a robustly healthy child.

**LOVELY JOAN BENNETT  
 SAYS HERITAGE—NOT DIET  
 —COUNTS!**

Lovely Joan Bennett, whose slim figure is the envy of millions of fans and hundreds of dieting Hollywood stars, never does anything about it but eat some more!

The 108-pound prettiest member of the celebrated Bennett clan is currently seen in "Nob Hill," the new 20th Century-Fox Technicolor hit in which she is starred with George Raft, Vivian Blaine and Peggy Ann Garner, and which opens Thursday and Friday at the Plaza Theatre.

Joan has never dieted in her life and swears she never will. Despite the fact that her favorite day's menu includes hashed potatoes for breakfast, potato salad for lunch and baked or French fried potatoes for dinner, the five-foot three-inch star who weighs 108 pounds has never weighed more than 110 or less than 107 since she attained her majority.

"I know weight can be controlled to a certain extent by diet and exercise, but primarily I think avoirdupois is a matter of heritage. Everyone in my family, both sides of it, have always been slim.

"I think naturally plump people who do something about it have the most remarkable will power in the world.

Fred McIntosh, aviation ordinance 3-c, USNR, received his discharged from the Naval personnel separation center at Norman, Okla, after 30 months service. McIntosh, with his wife and son, John Fredric, are visiting in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam McIntosh of Clyde, Okla. He is to resume his former position with the Gulf Oil Co., Odessa, Texas.

Our friend, Elbert Haling, home town editor of KRLD's Fort Worth radio studio, paid the Star editor a pleasant visit last week. Mr. Haling has given Baird some very valuable publicity on his radio program which is heard every Saturday at 12:00 noon at 1080 on your dial. This is a popular program throughout this area of the state, and by mentioning local people and happenings the Home Town Editor has found a place in the hearts of thousands of people who listen to that program.

Mrs. R. Q. Evans and other members of the family who were called home by the serious illness of her mother, Mrs. H. J. Lambert, who died December 7, returned to her home in Denison Saturday, accompanied by her sister, Miss Jeffe Lambert, who will spend the holidays with her sister and family.

The Rev. R. H. Campbell family is leaving Friday morning for a week's visit with Mrs. Campbell's mother, Mrs. Molly Hubbell, in Helena, Okla., and with Rev. Campbell's mother, Mrs. Mattie Campbell at Cherokee, Okla. They will return to be in the Methodist service Sunday December 30.

**BAIRD LODGE**  
 NO. 522 A. F. & A. M.  
 Meets Saturday night  
 on or before the full  
 moon each month,  
 7:30 P. M.  
 Members urged to attend,  
 visitors welcome.  
 Roland L. Dunwoody, W. M.  
 J. Brice Jones, Sec'y.

**BAIRD LODGE NO. 271**  
 I. O. O. F.  
 Meets 1st and 3rd  
 Tuesday Evenings  
 Visitors Welcome  
 Gilbert Hinds, N. G.  
 S. I. Smith, Sec.

**PROFESSIONAL  
 CARDS**

**B. L. RUSSELL**  
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
 (Office at Courthouse)  
 BAIRD, TEXAS

**L. L. BLACKBURN**  
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
 BAIRD, TEXAS

**M. L. STUBBLEFIELD, M.D.**  
 County Hospital  
 Phones Home 206  
 Office 236 Baird, Texas

**Wylie Funeral Home**  
 AMBULANCE SERVICE  
 Lady Embalmer and Attendant  
 Flowers For All Occasions  
 Phones 68 or 38  
 BAIRD, TEXAS

**V. E. HILL**  
 DENTIST  
 AND X-RAY  
 Telephone Building  
 Phone 179 Baird, Texas

**L. B. LEWIS**  
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
 General Civil Practice  
 Fire and Auto Insurance  
 BAIRD, TEXAS

**Callahan Abstract  
 Company**

Complete abstracts to all lands  
 and town lots in Callahan County  
 PROMPT AND  
 EFFICIENT SERVICE  
 Insurance Bonds Financing  
 Marion Vestal, Manager  
 RAYMOND YOUNG, Owner

To wish you loads of  
 Christmas Cheer  
 And a hearty wish for  
 A Happy New Year  
**MARGIE'S  
 Beauty Shop**

**DOROTHY PERKINS  
 WOOD SPICE**  
 TALC and COLOGNE  
 Intriguing  
 gift team...  
 delicious  
 Woodspice fragrance.  
 \$1.50  
 plus fed. tax.

With well-groomed men, Woodspice is a favorite also

**HOLMES DRUG COMPANY**  
 Phone 11

*Christmas* **CHEER.**



**The Little Onion**

G. M. KING, Prop.

**SEASONS  
 GREETINGS!**

*Mr. and Mrs.  
 W. V. Walls*

LAUNDRY



*Wishing You*

**A  
 WONDERFUL  
 CHRISTMAS**

*and All Happiness in  
 the New Year*

**A. & P. Food Store**

**HURRY!**

TOO BUSY TO WRITE AN  
 AD THIS WEEK.

*Nylon Hose*

*Sheets*

*Towels*

*Domestic*

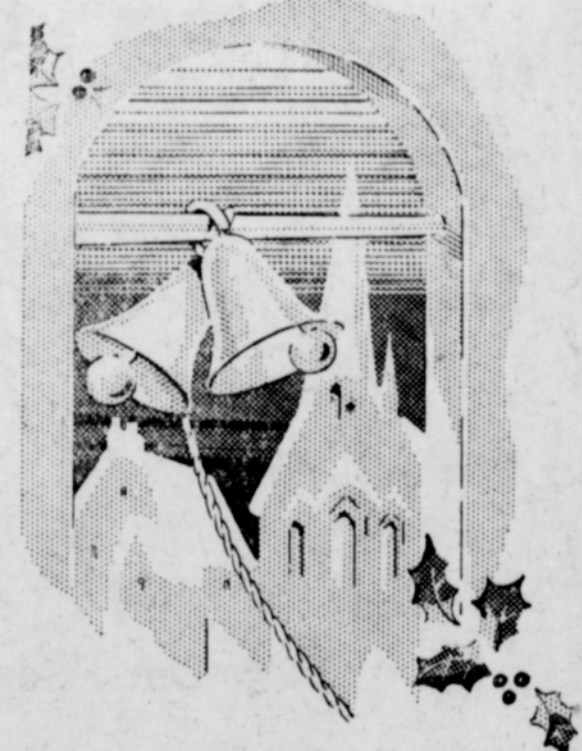
All Coming Right Away

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**WILL D BOYDSTUN**

More Goods For Less Money

*Christmas Bells  
 are Ringing  
 Merrily...*



... And it is pleasant to remember old  
 friends, and to wish them, in a genuine  
 sort of way, all the joys of a Happy  
 Christmas.

May Health, Happiness and Prosperity  
 be yours, not only on this day, but every  
 day throughout the years to come.

We will remain open until 9 o'clock each evening until Xmas.

**White Auto Store**  
 BAIRD, TEXAS



Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Shockey were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Ray. Mr. Shockey, former Callahan County agent, was recently discharged from the Army Air Corps. He is a veteran of the ETO, being stationed in Belgium, France, England, and Germany.

Morris Edwards, Eula ranchman, has bought 180 head of steer calves and yearlings off wheat around Happy recently. He put the steers on his Spur ranch, where he is wintering about 800 head. Edwards paid \$11.80 to \$13 per cwt. for the steers purchased.

#### METHODIST CHRISTMAS PARTY HELD WEDNESDAY

The Leader Class of the Methodist Sunday School entertained their husbands and other guests with a Christmas dinner in the church basement Wednesday evening, December 12th. The menu included turkey with all the trimmings. Mrs. Bob Norrell is president of the class. She acted as toast-mistress and introduced the guests.

The hall was decorated for Christmas. The chief decoration was a beautiful Christmas tree loaded with gifts which were presented to the guests as they gathered round in a circle after the meal was finished. Quite a few jokes were told, some stunts were pulled, and a general good time was had by all.

Those present were: Dr. and Mrs. V. E. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Kelton, Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. L. A. James, Mrs. B. L. Russell, Jr., Mrs. Roe Keilty, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Woodley, Rev. and Mrs. R. H. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Ace Hickman, Dr. and Mrs. M. L. Stubblefield, Mrs. J. M. Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Fetterly, Judge and Mrs. Farmer, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Norrell, Mrs. Tee Baulch, Mr. and Mrs. Felix Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. O. G. South, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Browning, Mr. and Mrs. Farris Bennett, Mrs. E. E. Beck, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Greene, Mrs. Nellie Mills, Mrs. E. M. Wristen, Mr. and Mrs. Goble, Mr. and Mrs. Hub Warren.

#### JACKIE OAKIE AND PEGGY RYAN STARRED IN FANCIFUL PICTURE, "THAT'S THE SPIRIT"

A humorous journey into heaven provides a bright, fantastic twist to Universal's "That's The Spirit," a superlatively entertaining musical drama which came Tuesday and Wednesday to the Plaza Theatre. Jack Oakie and Peggy Ryan, the gay father and daughter of the recent "Merry Monahans," bear a similar relationship in this new picture.

The two screen favorites are costared at the head of an unusually competent cast. June Vincent, Arthur Treacher, Gene Lockhart and Johnny Coy have headline roles. Other impressive names include Andy Devine and Buster Keaton.

Beginning in the '90's, the ingenious story follows most of its characters through a score of years. Oakie is seen as a vaudeville magician, Miss Vincent has the role of a sheltered young lady who marries the performer against her father's wishes. Lockhart appears as the pompous, humorless parent.

As the plot unfolds, the couple's happiness ends with the husband's sudden death under dubious circumstances involving another woman. After 18 years in heaven, the magician's spirit returns to explain the mysterious woman's identity. While on earth, the spirit also straightens out the problems of his daughter who wants to become a dancer. Miss Ryan has the latter role, one of the most convincing in her lively career.

Interesting highlights in the picture are Andy Devine's portrayal of the theatrical manager and Arthur Treacher's butler role in the stuffy Victorian home. Equally outstanding is Buster Keaton's appearance as chief of heaven's complaint department. Johnny Coy, sensational young dancer is teamed romantically with Miss Ryan in some of the film's best sequences.

Music in "That's The Spirit," directed by H. J. Salter, includes "The Fella With the Flute," "Oh, Oh, Oh," "Evening Star," "No Matter Where You Are," "Baby Won't You Please Come Home" and "How Come You Do Me Like You Do." A splendid vocal chorus presents the "Oh, Oh, Oh" number and is heard with Oakie and Miss Ryan in their solo numbers.

The original screenplay of "That's The Spirit" was co-authored by Michael Fessier and Ernest Page who jointly produced the picture. Charles Van Enger was the cameraman and Charles Lamont directed.



#### CHRISTMAS

In the second chapter of Luke we have an account of the birth of Christ. Man has set a side the twenty-fifth of December to remember that birth. No where in all of the New Testament does it teach man to remember the Birth of Christ. If Christ had wanted us to remember his birth I am sure that the correct date of his birth would have been given. I feel sure of another thing too. And that is that he would have left us the pattern by which to have remembered His birth. As Christ left neither the date of his birth nor pattern by which to remember his birth man has made them to suit himself. Christmas (so called) has become commercialized and has turned into one of the biggest money making machines, for the business man, of the season. Men and women who never take a drink of liquor have been led to believe that it is perfectly all right to drink during Christmas. Those who drink all through the year must get drunk to have the kind of Christmas that they call a success. But not only this, Santa Clause, the man that all the children think to be about the grandest man in the world is arrayed on billboards over the country advertising beer and tobacco. A nice kind of example to set before our children! Another thing, Santa Clause is being taught to children as much or more than Jesus Christ is. Children are to be good because Santa Clause will not bring them anything if they are not. I believe it would be much better to teach them Jesus wants them to be good. As children grow older they loose faith in Santa Clause, and many a child has shed tears untold when he found out that there was not really a Santa Clause. I wonder if men and women have not been led to a disbelief in Christ through the same avenue. There are many today (I can prove this statement) who have come to believe that the story of Christ is just a Santa Clause story to be remembered as a myth, only as they remember the story of Santa Clause. I mean by this they deny the virgin birth of Christ, his death and resurrection.

Christ left us instructions in the Bible to remember his death and not his birth. Christ is the only man that has left us those instructions. We are to remember his death because he died, shed his blood for the remission of sins. Christ left us a pattern by which to remember his death. This is recorded in Matt. 26:26-29. Here the Lord's Supper was instituted and in Luke 22:19 he said, "this do in remembrance of me." Not only did he leave the pattern by which we are to remember Him, but he gave us the time. The time is on the First Day of the Week, "And upon the first day of the week, when we are gathered together to break bread, Paul discoursed with them" (Acts 20:7). Thus we find that early Christians met together to remember the Lord's death upon the first day of the week. Again I make the statement that there is no record of them remembering his birth. I believe that this world would be a better place in which to live if people would come back to the Bible and be just plain New Testament Christians, nothing else, and meet together on the Lord's day and remember their Lord's death until he comes again. Comments appreciated. —Lloyd Connel.

Address communications to Lloyd Connel, Church of Christ, Baird, Texas. (Paid Adv.)

## The Baird Star

J. MARVIN HUNTER, JR.

Owner and Publisher

Subscription Rates: \$2.00 Per Year.

Entered at Postoffice, Baird, Texas 2nd class matter, Act of 1879.



#### WHEN SNOW COMES

Snow is not only the harbinger of another season but of a subtle change in our minds. Habit is so strong upon us and self abstraction is so much a part of our lives that we are not even aware of what our towns actually look like until a mantle of snow brightens and changes everything.

Everything looks so fresh and clean that we are surprised. We throw our heads back and take a look around. The dingy junk-yard looks like a medieval castle; a snow fort the kids built challenges it. People caper and clown more; their outlook has been brightened as well as the material features of the community.

Some of us hum Jingle Bells, others surreptitiously reach down, fashion a snowball, and test the old eye by tossing it at a tree or a pole. We decide to walk through the countryside and enjoy the gaiety that has fallen upon us; or maybe the brisk cold air relaxes us and we go home and toast our toes before the fire. Still others are pleased because the snow gives them an excuse to sit at home with a good book, rather than go out to dinner or a bridge party.

Snow brings with it many things, but almost universal is the lifting of our hearts. At last we have found time to do all the little things we have put off so long.

#### THE 1945 SETTING FOR CHRISTMAS

Snow was falling. Belgium had relaxed and the atmosphere around the countryside was like a peaceful prelude to Christmas—now only a few days away. Shadows pooled around the edges of this setting, however; tanks crouched; guns waited, ominous. Then, suddenly, the peaceful atmosphere exploded, the shadows leaped, and Christmas was the Battle of the Bulge.

This is not a particular happy reference at this stage of the season, but sometimes contrast enhances our sense of appreciation; and with the approach of Christmas this year we can find deeper meaning for its message of peace and good-will by pausing a moment to look back.

For, despite ruffled currents of international controversy, war has rolled off the horizon of our daily lives. It is remote for most of us; and, yet, when we look back, we remember that Yankees died last Christmas and that the tide of Allied victory had turned and was running in reverse.

That was in Belgium. On the other side of the world Yanks were dying; and, while the victory march was gaining momentum, it was still far short of the final tempo which sent the Japanese crashing to defeat.

So Christmas, 1944, was anything but peaceful. Germany's bloody fist had striking power left, and in the Pacific even the most optimistic military forecasters saw the war with Japan as dragging on for several years. Violence remained; the two-throated rumble of weapons and industry drowned out the meaning of the season; and, throughout the world, mankind forgot.

But that was 1944, and now the emphasis is on the home front again. Some of us had overlooked the nearness of the other things, but now as we readjust ourselves we find the value of the contrast. For, while we still have ruffled currents here, as well, we have the reality of peace.

We also have Christmas ahead of us—in the full meaning of the word and season, which symbolizes peace. We remember the other things, too, but not as shadows on this Christmas; we remember them as reasons for full enjoyment and appreciation of the peace.

For the peace is the Christmas gift of 1945. It is a gift from mankind, and ourselves. We fought for it; we won it; and now finally it is ours. And finally, to, we can be merry with traditional Yuletide spirit, while remembering that the only reason for perspective is to keep that peace.

#### ON NEW CHAPTERS FOR THE PRESS

To acknowledge something is to give it form and substance, even if it is only an abstract inference in the beginning. And, during the past few weeks, we have seen World War III not only acknowledged as a threat to mankind in the offing, but virtually accepted as the coming fact.

Everywhere public commentators are discussing and conjecturing about the dangers of another war; and almost universally, they have given direction to their thinking—or lack of thinking—which points to negative conclusiveness. "World War III," they say, and make conjecture fact.

And it was the same with World War II. We took a long range, gloomy view of doom, and helped to make it fact—bit by bit, word by word, and prophetic cartoon line. We sketched our own inheritance in detail; and, while we can probably take a bow for being accurate, there is more to think about.

Suppose, for instance, we think about peace. Suppose we give it full acknowledgement, for once, and build it up—bit by bit and word by word—into a heritage of fact. Suppose we exercise the power of denial and say there is no "World War III" and concentrate on peace—through all the channels of suggestion, which are the weapons of the press.

On the surface, of course, this is only so much fluff of pure idealism, we are likely to say, and there is far more merit in being cynical. But a long range view of things shows us that somewhere, sometime we've got to stop the process of putting left feet forward and put our emphasis on the positive side of leadership, inference, and suggestion.

Hitler showed the power of positive direction on the negative side of social balance; we have an opportunity on the other side. We can begin right now to write another chapter for ourselves around the theme, "history shall not repeat" . . .

Socialistic Great Britain is trying to borrow billions of dollars from capitalistic United States. It's the same old story: The liberals always require the other fellow's money to be liberal with.—Olin Miller in Reno Evening Gazette.

#### DOWN TO FACTS

Know the actual facts about your insurance. We will be pleased to explain your policies, with any company. Our interest does not end with first premium check. Insurance is a vital need. You will find the facts vitally interesting.

#### U.C. HAMILTON, Special Agent

Republic National Life Insurance Co., Dallas, Texas  
Box 1124 Baird, Texas

#### DINE AND DANCE

—TO GOOD MUSIC!  
Where Everybody Has A Good Time!  
Open Every Night at 8:30 Except Monday, which is reserved for private parties. Plan now to enjoy the holiday Season at



LAKEVIEW CLUB  
Cisco, Texas

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Potted Plants  
Cemetery Wreaths and Sprays  
Order Early—Avid Disappointment  
At No Extra Cost We Will Place Flowers On Graves At Ross Cemetery

### Kelton's Flower Shop

WE WIRE FLOWERS ANYWHERE

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Let us make your estimate to reroof your residence or store building. Estimates furnished free. We use Genuine Ruberoid Roofing materials. All roofs guaranteed.

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#### Notice To The Public:

We will be open evenings from this date through Xmas 'til 10 p. m. or later.

Holmes Drug Co.

#### LAUNDRY PICK UP

We will pick up your laundry and deliver it to your door twice a week—Tuesday and Fridays. Clothes are sanitarily laundered through nine different waters at

Also, Pick Up Dry Cleaning  
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Phone 10, Baird. O. C. Folmar, Driver

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And Repairs On All Kinds Of Electrical Appliances

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PARSONS ELECTRIC AND REFRIGERATION SHOP

#### HIGHWAY GARAGE

BAIRD, TEXAS

NO NEW CARS IN SIGHT. NEXT BEST THING, KEEP YOUR OLD CAR IN GOOD REPAIR BY TAKING IT TO HIGHWAY GARAGE, BAIRD, TEXAS.

FIRST CLASS MECHANICS

#### Your TELEPHONE Is At Your Service.



With the military needs becoming less by the day, the public in general is getting better telephone service. You were very kind and understanding throughout the war, and as we are better able to render the service you rightfully deserve, we invite you to use your telephone. Your telephone is a time-saver—it is at your service. Night or day, all the time, your telephone is at your service.

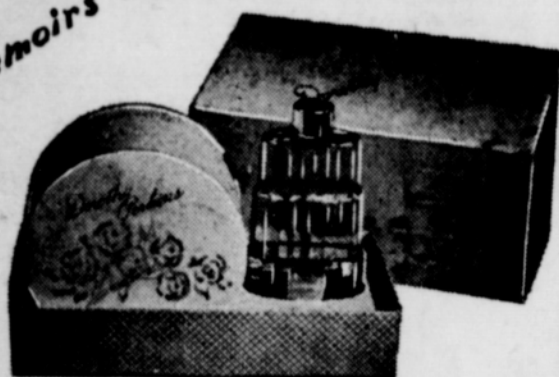
HOME TELEPHONE  
And Electric Company

Dorothy Perkins  
Memoirs COLOGNE and DUSTING POWDER

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**Cottonwood Chips**  
Community Clatter Carefully Collected for Your Consideration.  
By Mrs. S. B. Strahan

Sgt. John Christian is discharged from the army and he with Mrs. Christian and little daughter are with her people here the Dave Weldons, for the present.  
Sailor Grady Ramey and Mrs. Ramey are the parents of a baby son born Friday at Abilene. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Thompson visited them over the weekend.  
Mrs. H. S. Varner entertained Monday afternoon with a Christmas party for the W. M. U. ladies.  
Sailor Truman Shelton is on leave from a veterans hospital in Corpus. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Shelton.  
Mrs. Fred Kelly and daughter, Evelyne, of California came to visit with home folks. Mrs. Kelly will join them here soon.  
Sailor Alvin Cooksey is home on leave.  
Lemuel Davis has built a new home on the place where the Clyde Joneses lived.

**Midway Musings**  
Miscellaneous Melange and Minor Mention of Men and Women.  
By Mrs. W. B. Tarver

Rev. White of Clyde filled his regular day Sunday afternoon with a fine sermon.  
C. J. Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Wilson, has arrived after many months in the ETO. C. J. is about the sixth Midway son home now with a discharge.  
W. B. Tarver has the flu and is unable to go back to work. He is employed in Abilene.  
Edna Cook spent the weekend at home.  
Floy McCaw of Baird spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Brice McCaw.  
Lewis Tarver spent Sunday in Abilene.  
Mr. and Mrs. A. Wilson have had a good many guests since the arrival of C. J.  
Mrs. Brice McCaw's sister visited the McCaw family recently.  
Mrs. Paul Rogers and sons called on the Otto Roger family.  
Miss Norma Snow of Clovis, California visited in Baird and called on old friends out here. It's to be remembered the Snows lived here several years before moving to California. Norma tells us Doris has recently married.  
C. J. Wilson visited in the Jim Faircloth home Sunday.  
Elsie Gorman visited Louise Faircloth recently.  
Everyone is welcome to our Christmas program and tree December 24 at 7:30 p. m.  
Perry Gilliland arrived here last week from Victoria, where he was employed four years by the government.

**Deep Creek Dippings**  
Doings of a Delightful District De-tailed Without Discrimination.  
By Mrs. H. L. Turner

We extend our love and sympathy to Mrs. Alton Davis in the loss of her father and our dear friend, Mr. Tom Cooper.  
Mrs. Tom Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Eles Cooper of Coleman were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alton Davis and Tommy Friday and Saturday.  
Mr. and Mrs. N. M. George are the proud Grandparents of little Jo Lynn, born to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth George.  
We are sorry to hear many of our friends in this community have been ill this past week with the flu and hope them a speedy "get well."  
We send our prayers and thoughts to Mrs. Homer Boatwright in the loss of her brother, Edmund Gunn.  
Clifton Estman visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alton Davis last Friday.  
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Finley and Vicky Gene visited relatives in Baird Sunday.  
Mr. and Mrs. DeEldon Turner visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Blue Saturday evening.  
Mr. and Mrs. Evell E. Allison of Carbon visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Turner and Mr. and Mrs. Alton Davis a few hours last Thursday evening.  
Guests in the home of the Turners Sunday were, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Blue and girls, Mr. and Mrs. Alton Davis and Tommy, DeEldon and Wynell.  
Mr. and Mrs. DeEldon Turner of Eastland are visiting in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Turner, for a few days.

**Putnam Putterings**  
Pertinent Pointers Purposely Prepared to Please and Perplex People.  
By Miss La Verne Rutherford

The Putnam School was dismissed Friday December 14 for two weeks because of so much sickness in the community.  
Mrs. Jesse Morris was honored with a bridal tea last Tuesday eve in the home of Mrs. W. A. Everett with Mrs. W. B. Emmett, Mrs. Roland Nichols, Mrs. Henry Fry, Miss Billie Emmett and Mrs. W. A. Everett as hostess.  
Frank Sunderman of John Tarleton spent the weekend in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Sunderman.  
Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Allen and Claudia of Moran were visiting among friends Saturday afternoon.  
Mrs. Ida Montgomery and John H. of Jayton spent a few days in Putnam transacting business and visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Rutherford and Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Clark.  
Mrs. W. B. Emmett and Miss Billie Verne Emmett, teachers in the Putnam school left Friday night to spend the holidays at their home in Bluff Dale.  
Mrs. Ethel and James of Fort Worth spent the weekend in the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Rutherford.  
Mrs. R. L. Griggs, Jr., of Baird visited one day the past week in the home of her aunt, Mrs. R. E. Clark.  
Mrs. Jesse Morris is spending the holidays with Mr. Morris and other relatives in Mingus and Stephenville.  
Miss John Ha Clark is spending several days visiting relatives in Jayton and Rotan.  
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Harper returned to their home in Jal, N. M., after visiting with relatives in Putnam.  
Elsworth Clark was a guest in the home of his aunt, Mrs. J. H. Hill of Baird one night the past week.  
Mrs. Faye Jordon of San Angelo is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Weeks.  
Mrs. R. Lee Snider is improving after suffering from a very severe cold the past week.  
Cpl. Wilburn Carrico, stationed at Fort Sam Houston returned to camp Wednesday after spending a three day pass with his mother and other relatives.  
Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Crutchfield are enjoying the holiday season with their three sons home from the service—Judy Crutchfield was recently released from the Navy after 14 months duty in the Pacific aboard an L. S. M. Dr. James W. Crutchfield released from the Navy in November visited the family on his way to Abilene with his wife and baby, Patricia. Dr. Crutchfield has been back from the Pacific Theater a year and has been stationed at Kingsville. George Crutchfield was discharged from the Army in August after four and one-half years of service, 14 months in Europe. It looks like a real Christmas for the Crutchfield family!  
Buster George attended the auction last Tuesday in Abilene. He has been buying a few stocker cattle lately for his place east of here. He specializes in steers with a little size to them.

**Oplin Observations**  
Odds and Ends Opportunely Offered in Open Order.  
By Miss Georgia Dean McBride

J. R. Poindexter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Poindexter, has arrived home with a discharge after serving several months in Germany and France.  
Lloyd McWhorter, who is stationed at Fort Knox, Ky., is spending a furlough with his wife and folks.  
Bob Boston, son of Mrs. Lee Boston, is home on furlough. He is stationed in California.  
Melvin Poindexter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Poindexter, who is with the Marines, is on his way home. He is stationed at San Diego, Calif.  
Miss Kay Johnson has been ill the past week with the flu.  
Billy Ray Windham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Windham, will report to Dallas for further assignment to the service.  
J. L. Dennis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elgin Dennis, will report to Dallas for examination.  
Lowell McIntyre, son of Mr. and Mrs. Zack McIntyre, is stationed in France. He is doing fine.  
Miss Evelyn Steakley of Abilene visited her folks, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Steakley, during the week.  
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Christie of Brownwood are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Dee Peevy and Dorothy. Mr. Christie has recently been discharged from the army.  
A. D. Correll, son of Mrs. C. P. Correll, has arrived home with a discharge. He has been in the Pacific for several months.  
Lt. and Mrs. Clifton Hill and Mrs. Rhoads, Mrs. Hill's mother were the guests of Dr. and Mrs. V. E. Hill Tuesday. They were enroute to Wheaton, Ill., Mrs. Rhoads former home to spend the holidays. Lt. and Mrs. Hill will be back to spend a couple of weeks in January before he settles down to civilian life. He was separated from the Navy last week.

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Eat plenty yet lose weight with delicious candy reducing plan  
Have a more slender, graceful figure. No exercising. No laxatives. No drugs. With the simple AYDS Vitamin Candy Reducing Plan you don't cut out any meals, starches, potatoes, meats or butter, you simply cut them down. It's easier when you enjoy delicious (vitamin fortified) AYDS candy before meals. Absolutely harmless.  
In clinical tests conducted by medical doctors, more than 100 persons lost 14 to 15 lbs. average in a few weeks with AYDS Vitamin Candy Reducing Plan.  
30-day supply of AYDS only \$2.25. If not delighted with results, MONEY BACK on first box. Please  
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Tear Out This Ad As A Reminder

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See-or-Call  
**Mrs. Cecil West**  
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Lovely gift... delightful duo... stirring thoughts of Lilac-Time.  
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**WEST TEXAS UTILITIES CO.**  
What do I think of the servant situation?  
Why, I haven't any servants! I do all my own housework.  
Not quite all, Mrs. Smith. You have some household appliances, haven't you?  
Of course, but—  
OF COURSE—that's the answer, Mrs. Smith. You DO have a servant, but you take that servant for granted. You've got a combination laundress, cook, cleaning woman, lamp-lighter, seamstress and entertainer—one who doesn't mind a few odd jobs like heating the bath water, guarding your food, fanning your fevered brow—  
Oh, you mean ELECTRICITY—  
Yes, Mrs. Smith, electricity—the universal servant who works 24 hours a day at low pre-war wages—and never asks for time off. Why, Mrs. Smith, your "servant situation" here in America is better than anywhere else in the world.

**West Texas Utilities Company**

**NEW OFFICERS ELECTED**  
On Sunday, December 9, members of the Leader Class took time out from their lesson to elect officers for the next year. Mrs. Bob Norrell was re-elected president and Mrs. W. A. Fetterly was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

**GOING SOMEWHERE?**  
You might be planning to take a trip during the holiday season. If so, we may be able to help you have a more pleasant journey by getting your car ready. Drive in today for a complete job—lubricating, washing, battery check-up.

**SERVICE DAY AND NIGHT**  
**SUPER - PYRO ANTI - FREEZE**  
**Mac's Service Station**

**A Few Of Callahan County's Best Bargains**  
145 acres in cultivation, 6-room, house, good well and water piped into house. Modern conveniences. Located near Cottonwood. Priced to sell. \$35 per acre. Half cash, balance to suit.  
3 houses and 7 acres in Baird, good residential location, on Highway 80, west of business district. \$4,750 for the entire lay-out.  
Also, Grand old mansion, 10 rooms, 3 car garage apartment, half block of land in choice residential district of Baird.  
Also, a good Callahan county farm, ideal for peanut growing and fruit, on school bus route, good all weather road, 160 acres with 50 in cultivation, 4 miles N. W. of Baird.  
Now, listen, folks: After all a dollar is not worth much today and buys less. So why not begin to do what you have wanted to do for years. Callahan county is the spot for millions of happy hours of real living.  
**U. C. Hamilton Real Estate**  
P. O. Box 1124  
Baird, Texas  
NOTICE to property owners: List your property with me for quick sale. All inquiries promptly answered. If you want to sell your farm, your house. Call us today!

**Notice To The Public:**  
We will be open evenings from this date through Xmas 'til 10 p. m. or later.  
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and Good Jobs await  
Trained Beauty Operators!  
Enroll Now!  
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To look your best over the holidays, to enjoy the season's parties more, to prolong the life of your clothes, send us your cleaning . . . . NOW!  
  
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BAIRD, TEXAS

**THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A COMFORTABLY HEATED HOME AFTER A CROWDED SHOPPING DAY. BECAUSE WE PLANNED THE HEATING OF OUR NEW HOME AS A PART OF HOUSE, WINTERTIME IS A PLEASURE AND JOY. NO MORE WALL SWEATING AND STUFFY AIR. OUR EQUIPMENT IS VENTED.**  


**New Home Requirement!**  
**FLUES for VENTING**  
**Gas Heating Equipment**  
Only when equipment is vented to a flue are stuffy air and wall sweating eliminated. Vented heat is modern, healthful, economical. So install the necessary flues when building or remodeling. When installed and financed as part of home, vented heat costs so little more for so much more.  
**Lone Star Gas Company**



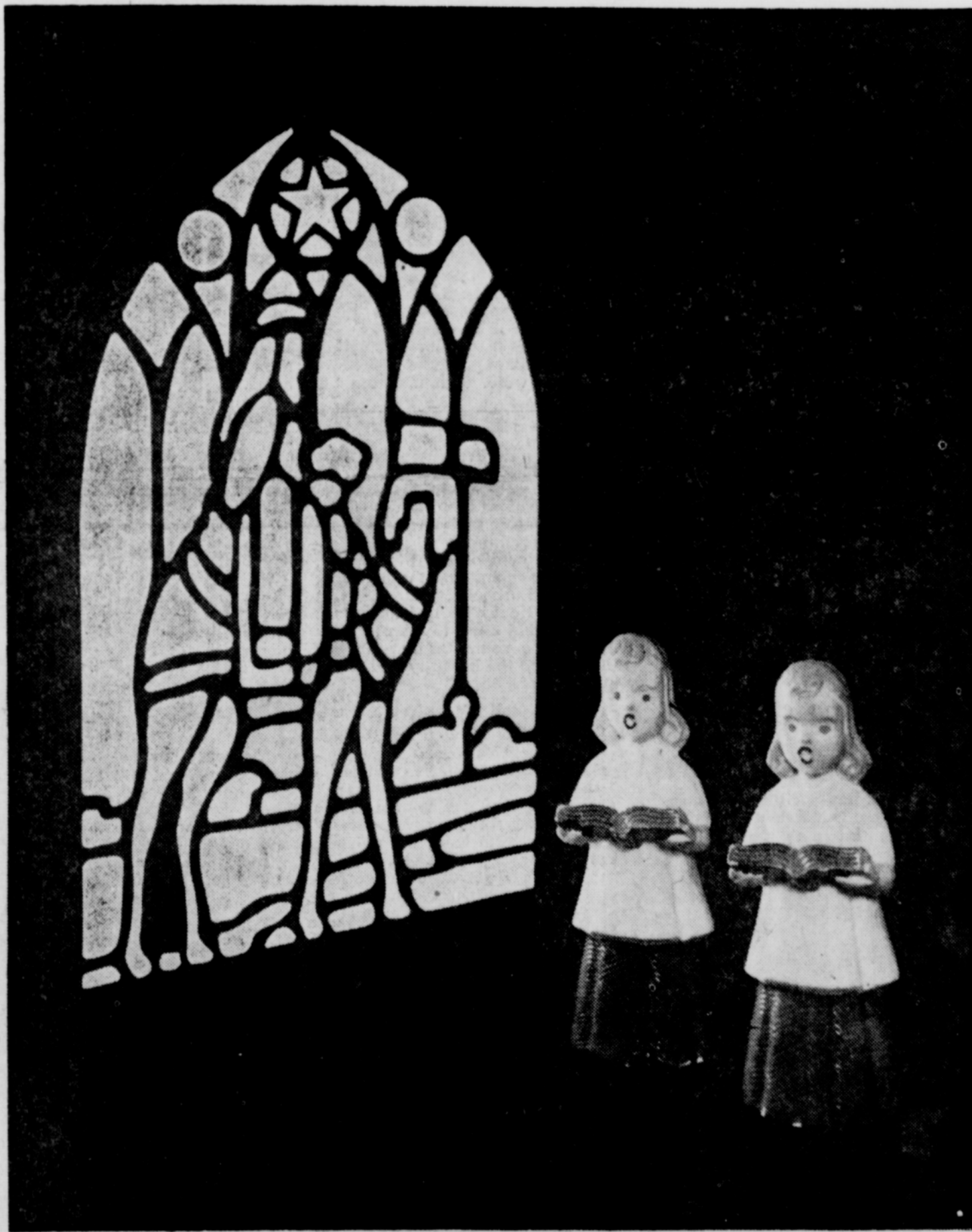
CHRISTMAS ISSUE

# The Baird Star

Our Motto—"Tis Neither Birth, Nor Wealth, Nor State. But The Get-Up-And-Get That Makes Men Great."

BAIRD, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER, 1945.

## Merry Christmas



### SILENT NIGHT

Silent night! Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother  
and Child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and  
mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the  
sight!  
Glories stream from Heaven  
afar,  
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia,  
Christ, the Saviour, is born!  
Christ, the Saviour, is born!

Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy  
holy face,  
With the dawn of redeem-  
ing grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.



# CHRISTMAS EVE on a Hospital Ship at Sea

(Capt. Frederick A. Jostes USNR, of St. Louis Mo., who wrote the accompanying story for the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, entered the armed service as head of a medical specialists unit. Formerly he had been director and chief surgeon of the Missouri State Crippled Children's Service).

By CAPT. FREDERICK A. JOSTES  
THIS is the story of the young marine who lost one hand and most of the fingers on the other when a Japanese soldier tossed a hand grenade back at him. The grenade exploded as it left the marine's hands for second time. He was with us at sea last Christmas.

For days he was not happy; his future as he saw it was almost black. He was facing the realization of home.

He seemed to be making a great effort to adjust himself, but got nowhere. On the evening of December 22 I found him sitting in his cabin in the semi-darkness of the red glow of blackout lights, weeping quietly to himself. "It is almost Christmas," he said; "I am used to doing things with my hands for Christmas. We were all taught how to trim a tree well and how to decorate the house. We all made things for one another. What can I do now? There will be no Christmas on this ship for us."

Then I told him quietly of our plans for Christmas and told him that I needed his help; that we would keep it a secret so that the other wounded would have the beautiful surprise and uncertainty of the Christmases of their youth.

There was little he could do with one hand, with only thumb and third finger left, but he helped me make selections of things from my trunk in the way of toilet articles, bits of candy, cigarettes, etc., I was going to wrap in gay red and green and white paper and gold and silver ribbons which I had

hurriedly bought months before when I realized that Christmas might find us at sea and unprepared.

## Hundreds of Packages

I did not tell him about the hundreds of small packages which Red Cross gave our chaplain on a last-minute call when we realized that we might have wounded as well as a crew aboard for Christmas. Each of these packages contained an exciting game, a bright handkerchief, some notepaper, a pencil, a miniature volume of a good book, a package of cigarettes, a bar of candy and a Christmas greeting card.

At the time I bought the colored paper and ribbons I also bought a small artificial tree and some no-n-b-r-e-a-k-a-b-l-e ornaments, a string of lights and some old-fashioned Bavarian paper creches similar to those which were the magic of my youth—the kind that, when adjusted, lend life and depth to the story of the Child in the manger. I remember I had given my "aunt," Mrs. Lille Bell Bassett, the time of her life helping me to buy these things during the last half hour I had before sailing from the port where she was living. I had offered as an excuse for the hurried purchases the fact that I had



CAPT. FREDERICK A. JOSTES.

the duty watch. I showed all of these purchases to our marine and warned him he must help me put them to the best possible use. It was such a joy to see how he went about trying to find the most advantageous use for what little I had to offer. I told him of the plans for the Christmas carols, of the plans for the Christmas party in the mess halls for everybody on the ship except those who were on watch, and that even those on watch would have relief for a short time at least.

## Plan Is Outlined

I told him of how we planned to carry all the stretcher case patients to the mess hall and give them the choice seats by placing their stretchers on the mess tables. From there they could see the movie screen, the large Christmas tree, the speakers' stand. This would give them a good view of everything that went on.

Soon he took on a new life.

On December 24 I appointed him to go about and spread the news of the party to all the stretcher cases—and there were hundreds—asking him to urge all of them to come to the party. As a wounded man, he could do more to arouse interest than we could. All were in a receptive mood, for all said they would attend, even those who were requiring 24-hour-a-day bedside care. . . some who did not know it, but whom we could count lucky if they lived until we reached port.

## A Different Party

While I hoped that all would be present for a grand family party, deep down I knew that in spite of heroic effort some would never make the grade. The devastating afternoon temperature took its toll. At 4 o'clock 10 men could not be moved. For them we had prepared a different kind of party, a bit of a surprise.

Again in the darkness of the red glow of the blackout lights we crept around the ship carrying on a portable surgical dressing table my three-foot artificial Christmas tree. My electrician's mate would steal quietly into each cabin, having located the light socket in advance, and as soon as our carolers, made up of four officers and four enlisted men, began to sing, "Silent Night," the electrician's mate would stand, as if by magic, a blazing Christmas tree in all its fascinating colors and twinkling stars of light. As sick as they were, each man did his

best to smile, even though many times it was through uncontrollable tears. For those of us who stood by, singing was sometimes difficult, too.

## Practiced Secretly

The carolers, who had practiced secretly in the library for days in advance, assembled on Christmas Eve on A deck forward and sang "Silent Night, Holy Night" to the ship's officers quartered on that deck. Then we wound our way up the ladders and through narrow deck passageways top-

cabins of the 10 desperately sick men, which took us all over the ship from sick officers cabins on A deck aft to prom deck to B deck portside and to the ship's company sick bay on C deck starboard forward. We had sung "Silent Night" here; "Noel, Noel," there; "We Three Kings," to Bill, and "Adeste Fideles" to little Joe; "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" to Vitali, the lad whose mother and father still lived in Italy; "Away in a Manger" we sang to the Swedish boy whose legs were held fast in plaster casts and whose bones were badly infected.

Later my fine marine with two fingers came to me that evening and declared: "It would be nice if you would give little Joe one of those small paper cribs—I have been talking with him."

"It's a funny Christmas," remarked Joe. "Instead of looking at the Child in the crib, I can only look at the crucifix on my rosary."

Secretly I had planned to give Joe one of my precious creches and I did, realizing only too well that that would be the last creche he would see and enjoy. He, too, was a young soldier, 22 years old, a member of the Hospital Corps who was shot down by Japanese snipers as he helped carry a stretcher case back and helplessly paralyzed from the chest down.

(Continued on Page 4, column 5)



"In the red glow of the blackout lights we crept around the ship carrying my artificial Christmas tree."

side to the boat deck and to the dark foyer before the skipper's cabin. The marine orderly stood rigidly at attention, as did the captain's negro steward.

## 10 Desperately Sick

We had completed the rounds of the

# NATIVE Pecan Tree 24 Feet Circumference

By B. F. HINES

715 Jones St., Fort Worth, Texas.

AT Christmas time our thoughts turn to trees, especially evergreen trees, but all trees are interesting and none more so than pecan trees. Texas is noted for its prolific growth of native and cultivated pecan trees, and Texas leads all States in pecan production. Next to Texas in pecan output is Oklahoma.

The largest native pecan tree in the world is said to be in Texas. It is the Jumbo Hollis, near Bend, in San Saba county. This tree stands 120 feet high, as tall as a ten-story office building. It has a 24-foot circumference, measured four and one-half feet above the ground. This monarch of the forest has a 100-foot branch spread, and a clear length of 41 feet to the first limb.

When the first white explorers pushed up the Colorado river, they rested under the spreading boughs of this tree, ate its big fine nuts and marveled at its huge size. Generations before them, nomadic tribes of Indians camped under the tree and left arrowheads and other signs of their presence.

There are other big pecan trees in Texas, but they are merely runners-up compared with the Jumbo Hollis which is owned by Mrs. Hassie Morris, of Bend, San Saba county.

## Buds Are Grafted On Other Pecan Trees

As early as 1910 buds from the Jumbo Hollis tree were sent all over the South and used for grafting onto other pecan trees. The nuts from this tree are round, large, well-filled and have a rich and tasty flavor. Thirty-three pecans from the tree usually weigh one pound.

In a history of San Saba county, written by Mrs. Lawrence Hamrick, the tree was described as follows: "Standing on the banks of the Colorado river at Bend is the world's largest pecan tree, the Jumbo Hollis. It is located on the property of Mrs. Hassie Morris. In 1919 it produced 1,015 pounds of nuts and for several years has reached close to this number of pounds. Mrs. Morris has been paid as much as \$1.00 per pound for these nuts."

The historian might have added that in 1910 a shipment of pecans from the Jumbo Hollis was sent to the Queen

of England who wrote the owner a letter of appreciation in which she praised the splendid quality of the nuts.

The farm upon which this tree stands was bought long ago by the late Phil B. McCoury who willed it to his daughter, Mrs. Hassie Morris, the present owner, and she still lives there.

## Tree Big Pecan Producer

The tree always has been a big producer. Eight hundred and sixty pounds of nuts were gathered from the tree in 1915, and they were sold for 30 cents a pound, bringing the owner \$258. This year the Hollis pecans sold for 35 cents a pound.

San Saba county, on the northeast border of the Edwards Plateau in Southwest Central Texas, from earliest days has been noted for its pecan production. The San Saba river bottom



—Photo by W. W. Mitchell, San Saba, Texas.

Jumbo Hollis, reported largest native pecan tree in the world. Circumference 24 feet, height 120 feet. This fine native tree, recently damaged by storm, lost several large limbs and part of its top.

is lined from head to mouth with native pecan trees, and is the heaviest native pecan producing area in the State.

J. H. Burkett, director of the pecan division of the State Department of Agriculture, says it was in San Saba county that the first effort to top-work (bud) a native pecan tree was successfully accomplished. The county has been the focal center of pecan improvement in Texas. The Jumbo Hollis pecans now are produced throughout the South from buddings of this one tree.

There is no certain way to find out the age of Jumbo Hollis without boring into the tree to ascertain its number of rings and this might kill the tree. San Saba citizens assert that the tree is "centuries old." When the first white man saw it the Jumbo was an old tree.

Thrived in Remote Geologic Times Well drillers in the San Saba Valley, (Continued on Page 4, column 5)

# YULETIDE THOUGHTS of the Little Christ Child

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

BOSTON GLOBE (The Bell Syndicate)

CHRISTMAS seems to me this year quite different from all the other Christmases I ever have known. We shall have gifts, holly and the tree, roaring open fires, and all the family gathered for the feast. It has always meant special music and special services at church, and—of later years especially, much serious wondering thought of the little Christ Child whose life was to be the most important ever lived by man.

I have marveled anew every year over the facts of the Saviour's life; the poverty and obscurity, the complete unimportance of all His associates, even of His persecutors, the strange teaching that was received by a few poor peasants, and the death of a common criminal that they made of Him.

Strange teaching indeed. It contradicted everything that men had ever believed. It discounted force and hate. It voiced the incredible doctrine that love was the only power, and that love fulfilled all the laws of Heaven and earth. They didn't believe Him, and they killed Him, and His forlorn obscure followers faced the great warring world of that day, and of the new worlds and the expanded days to come, with just a few quoted precepts as their heritage.

And that heritage grew and spread and thundered down the ages and reached unknown countries and unborn peoples—O, yes, polluted and twisted and misinterpreted and betrayed sometimes, it is true, but still the doctrine of forgiveness and brotherhood of man. Human weakness delayed it, but nothing could kill it, because it is the truth.

So much we all know, so much we all feel, at Christmas time.

## Our Debt to Christianity

But—like a window opening to sudden new light, it has come to me in these terrible past years of war that we owe Christianity a tremendous debt over and above the spiritual value it gives us. That Christianity, and the passionate love it awakened in men's hearts, is the actual ark of civilization, and that it ought to be fostered as a

sacred possession by everyone who hope for a new world, believer or non-believer.

The great Hebrew religion, from which the life of Christ was derived, did more than build temples. It built libraries, schools, hospitals, churches, colleges; it laid down a public and a domestic law. What other element ever did? These things do not exist in Oriental countries, where the great masses of the people even today live and die in squalor and superstition.

They do not build cities, railways, bridges, roads. The Orient is almost without these things, as it is without modern conveniences, sewers, tele-

that the miraculous life of Jesus Christ had anything to do with Europe's scientific and material progress, and the unbelievable growth of our own world, yet the fact remains that the believing nations, the Europe of yesterday and the Western Hemisphere of today, are the nations that cling to Him, profess fidelity to Him, no matter how far they fall away from the humility and charity that He preached.

## Faith Built Cathedrals

It began, of course, with the brotherhood of the early church, with the sharing of bread and wine. It went on to those early documents, to that wealth of priceless paintings, to the great cathedrals that simple men built for love of Him. Even today our painters do not rival those early expressions of love and devotion to the Madonna and her Baby; even today our architects marvel at the beauty of Chartres Cathedral and Canterbury and Rheims. Faith built all these; faith inspired the great musical compositions, and the chorals and requiems, and afterward the secular world took hold of these patterns and gave us all we know of modern art and music.

It may be now that, since the war is over, we shall have to begin all over again; in a stable with a Baby; begin with forgiveness and brotherhood, begin to realize that not only do His churches carry His name down the ages to us today, but that every other good and wise and beneficent thing we have all stem from that one life. If this could be brought home to our children, this incalculable debt that they owe to Jesus Christ, whose birthday we celebrate this Christmas, it might solve some of the great problems that we mothers face. It may even solve the atomic bomb problem. Civilization will increase only when we get back as close as we can to the law that tells us that by this shall we be known as Christ's followers, that we love one another. That love fulfills the law. That He is the way and the truth and the light. That ye shall have only to seek ye shall find Him.



## IF THIS COULD BE BROUGHT HOME

This incalculable debt that they owe to Jesus Christ, whose birthday we celebrate this year, it might solve some of the great problems we mothers face.

phones, paving, electric lights, etc. I have seen swarming dark communities, hundreds of them, in India and China, into which no one of these things ever had been introduced; where the compounds are icy puddles for eight months a year, and even such simple luxuries as a gas stove or bureau, a change of shoes or a potato had actually never been seen.

Extraordinary as it would be to state





# CURRENT COMMENT

By STAFF EDITOR

## Memory of Gallant Men

THIS Christmas there will be the dark shadow of tragedy on many homes. Husbands and sons went forth to war never to return. They have made to their country the greatest and most costly gift man can make—their lives. All the gifts which we make or which we may receive are as nothing when weighed in the balance against their gift. Bells will ring and candles will gleam and little children will be glad; there will be festivity in our houses, for we must keep Christmas—it is a holy time. Our spirits are tenderer than at any other time in the year.

We must keep Christmas. The dead would not have it otherwise. But let us not forget them and in our prayers for our own households there should be a more ardent prayer that those who sorrow may find comfort. Let us, too, thank the Giver of all good and perfect gifts that He has enriched us by the memory of all these gallant men, who beyond our sight in the unknown land of everlasting light have found peace and rest.



## Christmas Eve, 1945

At its best Christmas Eve is a night when the lights burn a little brighter along the crowded streets; when shop windows are everywhere vivid with red and green, and the last dark cedars stand ranked on the sidewalk awaiting a purchaser and bringing an aromatic breath of the forest to the town and city. The snow may sift down; the air be still, clear and cold—but the spirit of Christmas Eve is impervious to the weather. There is a heartier tone in the greetings of friends, and even strangers smile and exchange good wishes. The lights of home shine out through windows hung with wreaths, and within there is a great bustle of preparation—the wrapping of multi-colored packages, the setting forth of cakes and candies, the filling of stockings and, climax of the ritual, the trimming of the tree. There is noise and happy confusion, great pretense of secretiveness about gifts; music fills the air as the old carols come from singers, who sing with the spirit of Christmas in churches decked with evergreen and holly, the happy story of the first Christmas as told in familiar songs and cherished words.—New York Herald-Tribune.

## The Nation's Christmas Tree

The United States takes pride in several factors linking us closely with the great Yuletide holiday. The evergreen, whose perpetually green leaves are the

symbol of undying faith and life, abounds in this land. The oldest of the species in the world—the Sequoia trees—grow in California, and one of the most famous of these is the General Grant Tree which stands in the national park of the same name. Sequoias are the oldest living things on earth. Experts declare the age of the General Grant Tree to be between 3,000 and 4,000 years. It was flourishing hundreds of years before Christ was born.

The General Grant is known as the Nation's Christmas Tree and each Christmas Day since 1926 services have been conducted at the base of the giant Sequoia.

Also we have the largest tree to be trimmed each year. It is a 70-foot oak in Wilmington, North Carolina, where the climate keeps the tree green over Yuletide. The community makes a festive of decorating it and singing carols.

Then each Christmas the bell in St. Miguel Church, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, is rung. The bell weighs 780 pounds and bears the date of 1356. It was cast in Spain of copper, iron, silver and gold to the thickness of four inches, and brought to this country in 1712.

## American Soldiers at Bethlehem Manger

Last year on the Sixth Christmas of the greatest conflict the world has known more than 500 American warriors gathered to celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace at the Bethlehem manger, where it occurred.

They started coming in by plane fresh from the mud and gore of the battlefields in France, Germany and Italy, from North Africa, from stations in the Middle East and from the bleak coast of the Persian Gulf.

There weren't many officers among these pilgrims. Most of them were just plain GIs—winging in from scenes of violent death to honor the One who promised eternal life.

They followed the winding road to Bethlehem soon after their arrival in Jerusalem, for they were eager to see "the place." In the Church of the Nativity they descended a short flight of stone steps and shown the exact spot where the manger stood.

A bright metal star inlaid in rock marks the place.

Many attended the midnight mass in the Church of St. Catherine, the Roman Catholic Church adjoining the Church of the Nativity, which is the common property of Roman, Greek and Armenian churches. They heard the Christmas hymns sung by a choir of 2,000 Polish Army men and the Bethlehem bells and an American choir inside

the church broadcasting to the world. They came, not for a riotous week-end, but to observe a ceremony at the place where peace on earth and good will toward men was heralded to the world.

## Santa Claus Stresses Holiday Safety

"Stay alive in '45" is a holiday message that Santa Claus has delivered to the National Safety Council. Most of the message is devoted to a warning against fire hazards from holiday decorations.

Santa doesn't want any deaths or injuries, always more tragic at holiday time, in that big bag of gifts he'll be toting this year.

Said Santa: "I am counting on all peoples to observe safety rules during the holidays. Please remind them to—  
"Use only fireproof decorations.  
"Check all electric lights and wires.  
"Keep all lighted candles away from curtains.

"Be sure that the Christmas tree is in a firm stand and not placed in a doorway or near a stove or fireplace.

"Pick up all wrapping paper immediately and save for the paper salvage collection.

"I have tried to select safe gifts and toys for everybody, so please see that they are used safely.

"A Merry Christmas to all, and remember—Stay alive in '45."

## Army Report On Discharged Men

The Army reports that 3,114,000 of the 8,300,000 men in the Army when the European war ended have already been discharged. Navy, marine and coast guard discharges bring the grand total to 3,950,000. The Navy has released 670,132, the Marine Corps, 107,389 and the Coast Guard 52,623. Discharges now are running at the rate of more than a million men a month.

The Navy point score for discharge for enlisted men dropped from 41 to 38 December 1. It will go down to 37 December 15 and to 36 January 1, 1946.

## Motorists Warned On Winter Hazards

Regardless of mild or severe weather this winter will bring the most perilous conditions in the history of motoring, Carroll E. Mealey, director for the Eastern region of the National Safety Council, said.

He warned that adverse factors in winter driving had reached a new peak and might increase before next spring. Only the utmost caution exercised by motorists can avert a ghastly toll of death and injury, he added.

"The over-all situation is abnormal even when compared with 1944," he said. "Due to lack of maintenance and replacement the average highway has deteriorated 10 per cent and the motor

vehicle at least 30 per cent, which means both are about 40 per cent off standard. Add to this summary the menace presented by thousands of cars now in service which should have been in the junk piles long since.

"The upswing in traffic due to the free flow of gasoline and the worn tires are major hazards which will contribute a percentage to each of the rest of the dangers that confront drivers. I am alarmed at the tendency to speed prevailing in many areas. If this condition is carried into the winter I shudder to speculate on results during the coming months."

## Food Prices

OPA promises a new drive to keep food prices in line, now that sugar alone remains on the rationing list. There will be price chiseling, since all meats, butter, fats, and cooking oils are point free. The worst trouble will come in parts of the country which are remote from centers that produce these food-stuffs.

And for some time there will be local shortages in butter, fats and oils. OPA intends to "crack down" on merchants who boost the prices of these items above the legal ceilings.

Sugar, incidentally, may stay on the ration list for some time along with automobile tires. These two are the only items remaining in the ration point system set up early in the war.

The fats salvage program sponsored by the government since soon after Pearl Harbor is to continue.

Housewives and other consumers will be paid four cents a pound for salvaged fats. These are sold to soap

manufacturers and other industrial users.

## Pearl Harbor Inquiry

It was not a lack of warning about the aggressive intentions of the Japanese that contributed to the success of their Pearl Harbor attack, but rather a refusal on the part of high military and civil authorities in this country to credit them with the audacity to strike at this American stronghold.

This was one of the most significant points developed by the appearance of venerable ailing former Secretary Cordell Hull before the joint Congressional Committee that investigated Pearl Harbor.

Hull told of his early conviction that the Japanese were bent on war and recalled a series of warnings about this danger which he conveyed to the Roosevelt cabinet.

He said it was November 25 that he abandoned all hope that the Japanese would accept peace. On that day he told the war council:

"That the Japanese were already poised for attack. They were likely to break out anywhere at any time at any place, and I emphasized the probable element of surprise in their plans. I felt that virtually the last stage had been reached and that the safeguarding of our national security was in the hands of the Army and Navy."

Nevertheless, Mr. Hull told the committee, as did former Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles, in later testimony, he heard at no times in the weeks preceding December 7, 1941, any suggestion from a military source that Pearl Harbor was a likely target.

## The MOST Beloved CAROL

By TRUDI McCULLOUGH  
(Baltimore Sun)

THE night before Christmas in 1818, "Silent Night"—most beloved of Christmas carols—had not yet been composed. But on Christmas Day it was sung for the first time by children in an Austrian village to the accompaniment of a guitar.

That Christmas Eve the village priest, young Josef Mohr, sat reading the story of the Nativity when a peasant woman knocked at the door. A child had been born in one of the humble homes in his parish in the Alps. He went to bless it and returned so filled with the meaning of the Christmas story that he sat down to write what he felt. The lines kept turning into verse: "Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright..."

A second knock at the door brought his friend, the organist and schoolmaster Franz Gruber, with word that the church organ had broken down. If there was to be music tomorrow it must be a very simple hymn since there was little time to rehearse the children. Gruber there and then composed the music for "Silent Night," later erroneously attributed to Hayden. Next morning, with only a guitar to guide them, the village children sang the song that was to become the carol of the world.

## Sung at Court of Saxony

Nearly twenty years later four brothers and sisters were asked to sing it at the court of the King and Queen of Saxony. The journey of "Silent Night" had begun. It was introduced to America by bands of Tyrolean singers and bell ringers who toured the German-American communities that sprang from Boston to Milwaukee.

And yet "Silent Night" and most of the other Christmas songs America knows are not really carols at all. They are Christmas hymns set to solemn music by such famous composers as Bach, Handel and Mendelssohn.

Strictly speaking, carols are to be sung merrily and the term originally meant a dance. Perhaps the only real Christmas carol known to many Americans is "Deck the Halls With Boughs of Holly." Other real carols that appear as favorites are "Boar's Head Carols," the "Cherry Carols," the "Hunting Carol," and "Good King Wenceslas."

## Simplicity of Music

America seems to be the one country in the world where the terms "carol" and "hymn" become interchangeable at Christmas time. But all the songs Americans have claimed as their favorite carols have one thing in common—extreme simplicity of the music. There is almost no choir or group any-

where that can make "Silent Night" or "Little Town of Bethlehem" sound unattractive.

The origins of all these songs are obscured and varied. As in the case of "The First Noel" or "Nowell," books engage in a genteel battle as to whether its genesis is English or French. Thus the two different spellings. It was first printed in England, but perhaps even there few people realize that the complete text of all its stanzas tells the entire Nativity story as told to the shepherds by an angel.

## Tune From Handel's "Messiah"

Another founded on Biblical text is "Joy to the World." Based on the ninety-seventh Psalm, it was written by an Englishman named Isaac Watts in 1719. Its tune is from Handel's "Messiah." Charles Wesley, brother of the great John Wesley, wrote "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." The melody comes from the second chorus of a Mendelssohn cantata that was originally composed to celebrate the birthday of printing.

## Luther Wrote Words

And Martin Luther wrote that children's favorite "Away in a Manger" for his own children, who formed a domestic choir. The origin of the music is in doubt.

"Oh Come All Ye Faithful" has no clear history, but its Latin origin is attested to by the fact that all present-day Latin countries have their own versions. It is believed it was once sung to a fast tempo and danced around the "creeche" or crib that was always set up to commemorate the Nativity. The carol's certain history began in 1751 when it was sung at Stonyhurst College. It was sometimes referred to as the Portuguese hymn because it was a favorite at the Portuguese chapel in London as well as at other Roman chapels.

Only one of the favorites is of strict American origin: "We Three Kings of Orient Are." Written by John Henry Hopkins, an Episcopal clergyman, in 1857, its dramatic stanzas imply that it may originally have been meant for a home-made drama in the village church.

## Originally Song of Happiness

Some of the most interesting histories belong to the songs that are properly carols. "Good King Wenceslas" was originally a springtime song of happiness. In Bohemia, where Wenceslas ruled in the Tenth Century, street singers used to make their appearances in warm weather and sing these words about the King's extreme generosity as a hint to passers-by to loosen up their own pockets. Being associated with generosity, it naturally became a song of Christmas and gifts.



"The village children sang the song."

## Grass Root Reveries

By JOE GANDY

(Copyright, 1945, by the Southwest Magazine Co.)

THIS would be the happiest Christmas in America in a quarter of a century if it were not for industrial warfare. After brilliantly winning a war on two fronts we start a war at home among ourselves, thereby holding up reconversion. Labor and capital could settle disputes if motivated by the Christmas spirit. Good will goes a long way toward smoothing out differences and disagreements.

Yes, good will now is sorely needed—not only at home but abroad. Hate almost destroyed the world. A Third War can wipe out the human race as it exists today. Atomic bombs would do the job and do it quickly and completely.

Therefore, at this glad Christmas time let's stop hating one another for once and forever. Let's put good will into our hearts and keep it there. Let's read over and over the "Sermon on the Mount," by the Apostle of the golden rule who said nineteen hundred years ago: "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God."

Christ came into a world of hate and revenge, a world that sought an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But He taught a new doctrine—a doctrine of brotherly love and good will to all men. Nevertheless, most of his teachings still go unheeded. When the human race accepts and lives the philosophy of life as laid down by the

Saviour, there will be no more race hatred and no more wars.

Despite the labor rumpus, we are going to have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year because troopships are bringing home thousands of our soldier boys to be with their loved ones again. This homecoming is the best of all Christmas gifts. We welcome them with exceeding great joy. They fought a good fight, won a glorious victory. No braver men ever faced an enemy in defense of their country.

Turkey on the table Christmas and New Year has been the most popular meat. But not so this Christmas. The most popular meat, if you can get it, is cured ham. The old weather-beaten smoke-house with ham, bacon and sausage hanging from its rafters will look like a mansion these wintry days while you hunger for fried ham and brindle gravy. Songs and poems have been written about the odor of new mown hay, but it's a flop compared to the odor of ham sizzling in the skillet while wife pulls a panful of fluffy biscuit from the oven and says, "Breakfast is ready!"

Speaking of eats at Christmas time, you can't beat the traditional pumpkin pie and pound cake. Some housewives serve new fangled pastry with hifalutin names, but I haven't run across a thing better than old-fashioned ambrosia, boiled custard and cookies. I can eat my weight in cookies—and that is why wife hides the cookies. Some-

times I discover where she has hidden them and slyly eat my fill. Once I heard her say to herself: "That hound (meaning me) has been eating my cookies again!"

One of Ripley's cartoons recently pictured a plain bar of iron worth \$5. This same bar of iron, when made into horseshoes, is worth \$10.50. If made into needles, it is worth \$3,285, and if turned into balance springs for watches, it is worth \$250,000. At the same ratio a bale of cotton is worth \$3,500 if made into shirts, and worth \$6,200 if made into socks.

The 28-year-old new president of Ford Motor Company, Henry Ford II, said recently to a nation-wide radio audience:

"We have come out of this war with monumental proof that our country can discover and invent and build and produce at a rate that no human being thought possible. Are we now going to sit back and listen to prophets of gloom? Actually, all we need to do is to direct our creative energy into new channels to bring to our country a life richer and better than any of us ever have known."

Henry Ford II is right. Opportunity knocks at our door. Shall we open the door or shall we close it? The answer is up to you and me and all other men in these United States.

The coldest spot on earth is reported to be the Yakutsk region in Siberia where the temperature drops as low as 95 degrees below zero in winter. The next coldest spot on earth is right here in the Southwest if you are caught out in a norther without an overcoat. A good neighbor of mine lost his life because he failed to heed his wife's advice to take along his overcoat when going on a long journey. He ran into a norther, got chilled, took pneumonia and died in a few days.



# TEXAS BRIEF NEWS --- from Over the State

## DEER DAMAGE CROPS

Sixty farmers and ranchmen attended a meeting in San Antonio early in the fall to talk over ways of protecting their corn and other crops from marauding deer. The animals increased during the war. Some farmers reported their corn field losses as high as 100 per cent.

## GALVESTON WINS SAFETY PLAQUE

For the third time in four years Galveston has won the safety plaque awarded by the State. During 1941, 1942, 1944 the city had fewer traffic fatalities than any other city in Texas in the 50,000 to 100,000 population bracket. So far this year Galveston has had only one traffic death in the city limits.

## TEXAS OFFERED "BATTLESHIP TEXAS"

Secretary of Navy Forrestal is reported to have offered the " Battleship Texas" to Texas, as the grand old warship is to be retired from service. Representative Thomas suggested that the warship be sailed up the Houston Ship Channel and permanently berthed off the San Jacinto battle ground.

## PENNY PARKING METER

El Paso has been giving the penny parking meter a trial. The meter will take either a penny or a five-cent piece. One penny will buy 12 minutes of parking time; two pennies will pay for 24 minutes of time; a nickel buys an hour's time at the curb. Five hundred parking meters of this variety recently were installed in Mexico City.

## CHINAMAN SAYS "NO" IN 3 LANGUAGES

Houston police questioned a transient Chinaman concerning \$7,000 found in his hotel room. Although he declined to answer questions as to where he obtained the money, he spoke freely in three languages, Chinese, English and Spanish, on all other subjects.

## RIO GRANDE GIVES TEXAS 200 ACRES

Thanks to whims of the Rio Grande, Texas is 200 acres bigger than it was a while back. The shifting river in a recent flood cut a new channel and added a good sized farm, 200 acres, to the State near Los Indos, Cameron county. Three families, cut off, will become non-resident citizens of Mexico. The Boundary Commission will establish the new border line and life will go on as usual in the lower Valley.

## LANDED A GOOD JOB

C. B. Hogan, Jr., of Dallas, is 30 years old. He was discharged from the Army Air Forces with the distinguished service cross, the air medal and four oak leaf clusters. He didn't walk the streets hunting for a job. He simply inserted the following advertisement in a Dallas newspaper: "Are you crazy? Discharged veteran wants job with high salary. Comes recommended as lazy, inefficient, not too bright, plus other debatable qualities. Heaven help you. Come and get me."

## EARLY DAY BUFFALO STAMPEDE

In early times a stampede of bison left an untold number of dead animals in a Texas stream channel running near Plainview, Hale county, and Texas University Museum Director, Dr. E. H. Sellards, is trying to find out about it. Bones of the animal, piled in layers, lie under 12 feet of valley soil in what once was a stream, and from spears found there it is believed the pile-up occurred when Indians first started hunting buffalo in Texas. Bones so far uncovered indicate the animals were larger than the later day buffalo which roamed the plains of Texas.

## UNWELCOME TAXICAB PASSENGER

Near the end of a long, uneventful night, R. L. (Red) Engelking, a Houston taxicab driver, delivered two passengers to West Alabama street and when they stepped out of the cab a ferocious-looking bulldog jumped in. The bulldog occupied the seat, refused to alight. In desperation the taxi driver rolled up to the nearest police station where several officers removed the animal from the cab. Kinny Poston, of the Humane Society, who knows nearly all Houston dogs, undertook to return the taxicab-riding bulldog to his master next morning.

## FFA BOY HONORED

At the 18th annual convention of the Future Farmers of America in Kansas City, Marion F. Baumgardner, of Wellington, Collingsworth county, was elected vice-president of the national organization. At a banquet given by The Kansas City Star, he was awarded one of the 150 American Farmer degrees given for Future Farmer work. As a vice-president, Baumgardner represents twelve Southern States. He is the second Texan ever elected to a national office in the FFA. Roy Martin, of Cotulla, served in 1936. In this position, Baumgardner will direct the work of 200,000 Future Farmers in 6,500 departments.

## BIRTH RECORDS SOAR

Texas recorded 164,033 births in 1944, highest in history. The 1944 rate of 23.9 per 1,000 population is larger than the 1943 rate of 23.4. Death rate for the year, 8.9 per 1,000, remained unchanged.

## COUPLE LIKES FARM LIFE

Sixty-six years ago Mr. and Mrs. William Arnett were married in Alabama and came to Anson, Texas, December 1, 1891, where they settled on a farm which they bought. They have lived on this farm 50 years. Once they moved to town for a short time but did not like town life.

## CYCLIST CLAIMS 300-MILE RECORD

Jack McDonald, of Dallas, claims the record bicycle-time of 15 hours and 48 minutes actual riding time from Dallas to San Antonio. He made the trip on a special bicycle of his own make, with six 30-minute stops for food and rest.

## CITRUS CROPS ENRICH RIO GRANDE VALLEY

More than 9,000,000 citrus fruit trees are enriching farmers in the Rio Grande Valley this year. The crop is expected to cash in for more than \$60,000,000. P. J. Neff, Houston, vice president of the Missouri Pacific lines, says perishable shipments from the Valley increased 50 per cent between 1940 and 1944, and added that his railroad expected another 50 per cent increase in the coming five-year period. Canners are credited with having done much to stabilize the market for citrus products.

## GI PIGEONS FOR SALE

Thousands of Army homing pigeons have been for sale in five-pair lots for \$25 the lot. Any person may apply to the Office of Surplus Property of the Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C., for detailed information regarding the GI message bearers. Many of the pigeon's were taught to fly at night, all are of exceptional breeding and have been carefully trained. Many are descendants of the nation's finest homing pigeon stock.

## GROWS SWEETER BEETS

Beets grown in the Brazos river valley between Waco and Navasota contained a higher sugar content than beets grown in the western sugar beet States, according to Representative Poage, a member of the House Agriculture Committee. The report was based on tests made by F. G. Blake, of Cameron, Milam county, a soft drink manufacturer. Saccharine content of the Brazos valley beets is said to be about 21 per cent.

## ALAMO GIVEN VALUED COLLECTION

Three thousand books about Texas, valuable old Texas paintings, documents and early-day newspaper clippings have been presented to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas by Dr. William E. Howard, of Dallas. The priceless collection represents the work of a lifetime and a large cash outlay. The collection is to be placed in the Alamo. Some of the first maps of Texas and letters from Bowie, Travis, Crockett and Houston are included in the collection. Portraits of 62 Mexican viceroys who ruled Texas for Mexico and letters from each are among the valued articles. There are 75 different portraits of Sam Houston.

## "UPSTAIRS" SUPER-HIGHWAYS FORECAST

High land costs and increasing traffic are going to force some of Texas' super-highways "upstairs" after a while, says W. J. Van London, State highway engineer. "Skyways would be extremely useful in some places in Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio right now," the engineer says.

## WATCH OUT FOR MAD DOGS

Rabies is more prevalent in winter than in the "dog days" of summer and fall, says Geo. W. Cox, State health officer. He reported that in February last year the State laboratory examined 312 animal brains for rabies and more than 37 per cent tested positive, while in August only 155 brains were examined with 30 per cent positive. If all stray dogs were destroyed and all pet dogs vaccinated, the disease could be more easily controlled, doctors say.

## COUPLE WED 65 YEARS

Mr. and Mrs. Levi Adkins were married October 15, 1880, in Petrilla, Ill. Forty years ago they moved to Texas and made their home at Eagle Lake, Colorado county, where they raised six children. A daughter, Mrs. William Spalinger, of Eagle Lake, and her husband, entertained the couple on their 65th wedding anniversary.

## ATTACKS AND KILLS CATTLE

Henderson county farmers are on the lookout for a panther, or other large animal, which has attacked and killed one or two calves and which attacked, but did not kill, a grown cow on the farm of M. R. Renfro between Baxter and Flat Rock. Panthers have been reported in the vicinity over a period of years but none have been killed there recently.

## 100-YEAR-OLDSTER KEEPS UP TO DATE

Although more than 100 years old, having lived through four wars, H. S. Hilburn, of Graham, Young county, keeps posted on the news of the world and manages to walk to town frequently to chat with other early day settlers of the county. He celebrated his 100th birthday with a party at the home of his daughter, Mrs. T. E. Matthew, of Graham. His first home there was a dugout. Later he built a house, and at a still later date erected a modern house on the land which he still owns. Mr. Hilburn was born at Paris, Texas, September 27, 1845.

## OWNER CONSERVES TIRES

Tire rationing never bothered Wesley Richards, of McAllen, Hidalgo county, and he never worried once during the war about his car wearing out. Mr. Richards drives a 1929 Ford which is as spick and span as it was 15 years ago when he bought it and his tires, the same ones that came with the car, are in fine shape. He simply takes good care of his car, never drives faster than 30 miles an hour and keeps his tires in the shade when not using them.



THE DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS!

## TALE OF 19 POSTHOLES

An old story going the rounds is about an accountant in Dallas, checking the voluminous inventory files of the Defense Plant Corporation, says he found listed by the government, in addition to millions of dollars worth of other property, an item labeled: "19 postholes."

## BEAR KEPT COMING

Charley Bazzell, of Longview, Gregg county, is showing a fine dressed bear hide from a 225-pound bear which he killed in the Cellways district of northern Idaho last winter while visiting his sister. He shot the bear at a distance of 200 yards with a 30-30 rifle. But the bear kept coming, and at 10 yards stopped and stood up. Then Mr. Bazzell gave him another shot which laid him out.

## NUECES RIVER DAMS TO BE BUILT

Two of six dams to be built on the Nueces river will be started within 14 months, and cost approximately \$20,000,000, according to F. W. Pulliam, of Crystal City, president of the board of the Nueces River Conservation and Reclamation District, which met recently. Water from the first two dams is expected to irrigate nearly 40,000 acres of land, 21,500 acres at Cotulla and 18,500 acres at Uvalde. The other four dams will be built at Concan and Sabinal and will irrigate more than 30,000 acres.

## THE FLOP FAMILY



## BUFFALO-BRAHMAN CROSS-BREED BULL SOLD

Chris Smith, who operates a service station at Four-Way, 30 miles north of Amarillo on the Dumas highway, has sold his crossbred buffalo-brahman bull to an Oklahoma concern for show purposes. The cross-breed, probably the only one in existence, is a 4-year-old and weighed more than 3,000 pounds. For a while Mr. Smith kept the animal on a ranch in Colorado, but he became unruly and was returned to Texas.

## NO INFLATION THEN

From an issue of The Texas Coaster, dated 1895, the following prices were taken from advertisements of leading merchants:

Shot guns, from \$5 to \$25, at Dyer and Ransom's.

Fresh fish, dressed 10 cents a pound, every day at A. Kaulfers.

Best quality American sardines, 5 cents, at Baker & Hirsch's.

Children's hose at Dyer's for 5 cents a pair.

Every day, fresh oysters, at 75 cents a hundred. Cooked, 25 cents a dozen, at A. Kaulfer's.

Numsen's Clipper brand tomatoes, 4 two-pound cans for 25 cents, at Baker & Hirsch's.

Good syrup at 30 cents a gallon, at Baker & Hirsch's.

The Reliable Dairy, J. W. Cornett, manager, delivers the purest milk at five cents a quart; butter, the best, at 25 cents a pound.

You can get a fine cassimere suit of men's clothes at Dyer's for \$4.75.

Baker & Hirsch will sell you one barrel of good flour for \$3.85.

## CAPITAL POURS INTO BUSINESS

During the first nine months 1945, domestic firms incorporated in Texas had authorized capitalization of \$9,932,000, compared with \$8,344,000 for the same period in 1944. In September alone 83 new firms were incorporated with authorized capitalization of \$1,679,000. For the most part the new concerns are merchandising and building companies.

## KILLS LARGE BOBCAT

Sid McCreary, of Palestine, went hunting for squirrels in the Trinity river bottoms. An animal came creeping toward him as he still-hunted the squirrels and when it was close enough he shot and killed it. It was a bobcat, three feet long, and about 18 inches high.

## BANANAS GROW IN LOCKHART

Several years ago some banana trees were planted in Lockhart, Caldwell county. The trees grew, but never produced until this year. Due to recent mild weather, 12 fine bunches were harvested from the trees.

## FORMER SLAVE PREACHES

J. W. Thompson, negro Baptist preacher who lives in the rear of an apartment house at 111 N. Winnetka Avenue, Dallas, celebrated his 96th birthday in December. Born a slave in Victoria, Texas, he has lived through four wars. For 20 years he worked for a packing company in Dallas. Now he spends his time preaching and occasionally performs a wedding ceremony. He enjoys fine health.

## MEXICO BUYS TEXAS KARAKULS

Jose L. Sanchez, of Mexico City, has bought 50 head of Karakul sheep from Mrs. Alex Allbright, of Dundee, Archer county, for the Mexican government. Mexico is to conduct breeding experiments with the Karakuls from which many fine "fur" coats are made. Alex Allbright established the Karakul ranch in Archer county, Texas, 43 years ago. Mrs. Allbright has managed the ranch since his death in 1936, and now has 800 sheep on the ranch. The Allbright ranch is well known in New York where the fine pelts from the new-born lambs are fashioned into many fine fur garments. Original stock for the Allbright ranch was imported from Astrakhan in southern Asiatic Russia.

## TO CELEBRATE 103RD BIRTHDAY

Mrs. Mary Holcomb, of Tyler, Smith county, will celebrate her 103rd birthday the day after Christmas. Of her nine children, three are still living. Mrs. Holcomb was born in Skipper county, Alabama, moved to Kentucky Town, Grayson county, a number of years ago. She now lives in Tyler with her daughter, Mrs. A. L. Carr.

## STEEL BOAT FOR FISHERMEN

In Abilene, Taylor county, a manufacturer soon will start turning out a boat made of 22-gauge steel which may be taken apart easily and carried in the back of an automobile. The parts can be reassembled in about five minutes, the maker said, who claims it is an ideal boat for fishermen.

## TO PLANT OIL-BEARING TREES

Oil-bearing trees from Mexico are being planted for experimental purposes in the Rio Grande Valley. E. D. Cook, of Southern Methodist University agricultural department, supervised the planting of a truckload of "Garcia Nutans" on a farm owned by Carl Hobbittzelle. Similar trees have been planted on property owned by Dr. C. L. Luidell, of SMU.

## THIEVES INVITED TO TAKE CARS

A classified ad in the Daily Sun of Goose Creek, Harris county: "The party or parties responsible for the theft of seven wheels and tires off two cars parked in the driveway at Slapout Gulley, are invited to come and get the rest of the cars. No questions asked." The thieves did not accept the invitation.

## CHRISTMAS EVE ON A HOSPITAL SHIP AT SEA

(Continued from Page 2)

After repeating our performance in the cabin of each of these very sick men, the carolers proceeded to the mess hall, singing "Deck the Halls With Boughs of Holly." Here we had a good movie and an inspiring talk by our skipper, who spoke of the Christ Child as One for whose principles of life we are fighting. After this talk we had a feast.

Just think of it! Real steak, sandwiches, coffee, coke, ice cream, cakes, candy, Christmas cookies baked by our own ship's baker, all you could hold. During all this time my fine marine with but two fingers carried sandwiches, one by one, around to the stretcher cases.

The next day the patients slept late as though inebriated with good food and pleasure. Few of them waked for breakfast. They were still in a daze when I saw them at about 10 o'clock, as though they had been out all night and kicked up their heels. When I came to the bed of my fingerless marine I found him looking up at the ceiling, smiling. He jumped out of bed at attention and said: "Sir, I really believe that was one of the finest Christmas Eves I have ever had. And a Merry Christmas to you, sir; a Merry Christmas to you."

## NATIVE PECAN TREE 24 FEET CIRCUMFERENCE

(Continued from Page 2)

near Bend, have brought up petrified pecans from great depths, proving that pecan trees thrived there in remote geologic times.

The great size of the Jumbo Hollis is best appreciated when compared to other large pecans trees in Texas. In San Antonio, on South Flores street, there is a pecan tree with a circumference of 15 feet, standing 62 feet high.

Thirteen miles northeast of Breckenridge, Stephens county, is another pecan tree which measures 22 feet in circumference, and has a spread of 120 feet.

A large pecan tree, just found and measured at Toledo Bend, Newton county, is 15 feet six inches in circumference, 119 feet high and has a spread of 119 feet.

The Texas Forest Service, A. & M. College, College Station, is conducting a continuing search for largest trees in Texas, including pecan, of all species, and will welcome information about big trees of any sort in any part of the State.

By SWAN



# A LITTLE FUN *Jokes to Make You Laugh*

## Under Cover

A first grade class was asked to draw a picture with a horse in it. One small urchin did nothing, declared he couldn't draw a horse and flatly refused to try. Suddenly without further urging, he got to work. When the teacher looked at the picture later Johnny's achievement was a large barn, doors closed, covering the entire paper. "But where is the horse, Johnny?" inquired the teacher.

"In the barn," said Johnny confidently.

## Ole's Rejoinder

Ole had bought a tractor but couldn't run it in spite of the fact that the dealer had shown him again and again how to operate it. The dealer finally quit in disgust. "I can sell you a tractor, but I can't sell you brains to run it," he said.

"Shoor you can't," retorted Ole. "You can't sell vat you haven't got."

## Uncle Zeke's Wisdom

The late Simon Bolivar Buckner used to tell a story of an old resident in his Kentucky home who was celebrated for his wisdom.

"Uncle Zeke," a young man once asked, "how does it come you're so wise?"

"Because," said the old man, "I've got good judgment. Good judgment comes from experience, and experience—well that comes from poor judgment!"

## The Small Son

The small son of the house had been told that he must always wait patiently till he was served at meals, and not draw attention to himself.

One day he was dining out at a friend's house with his mother, and somehow he was accidentally overlooked. Nobody noticed, and for a time he was patient, but at last he could stand it no longer. Leaning across to his mother, he said in a low voice:

"Mother, do little boys who starve to death go to heaven?"

## Sweet Land of Liberty

Lord Halifax, who once said that it seemed to him every airman he met in London was an American, now is telling this story:

A man died and went to heaven where amid all the delights, he was startled to find four men in chains. "Men in chains, in heaven?" the new arrival gasped.

"Oh, we had to put them in chains," he was told. "They're dying to get back to America."

# Poultry News

Written by

**JUDGE WALTER BURTON,**  
Licensed American Poultry Association  
Judge of All Breeds of Poultry,  
Arlington, Texas.

I have been thinking seriously this year, as in other years, of the things that should have been done in November on my poultry place. This year, I am reminded more than ever, that too few of us poultrymen have brought our breeder birds into production in December. All experienced poultrymen know that flocks for market egg production as well as those for hatchery flock purposes should be housed and in laying quarters by December 1st of each year. Any blood testing, selecting, treating for lice, mites and so forth should have been done well along before the 1st of December. When we have had a moderate fall such as this year up to November 22, too much is put off getting the layers under way on time.



In November roosts should have been treated with carbolineum. But if you still have the job to do, I would rather be late than not at all. This month, you still may have a day of moderate weather when you can do the job. Paint the roosts or spray them and the house early in the day, feeding the flock and watering them outside for eight to ten hours so the house will have plenty of time to air out and, then, you should have no blistering of birds and consequent molt or drop in production as a result. A great many manufacturers of carbolineum give you this warning printed on the containers: "Be sure to use a carbolineum with an anthracene oil base if you wish to spray it." The coal tar base carbolineum, and there are a lot of them advertised to be used with poultry, are effective but they must be painted on only. If labor were plentiful, this might be okay.

If you did not dust your hens for lice in November, as all of us should do, December is sure

the dead line for you to get busy. There are a good many dealers in every locality that sell a good dusting louse powder and have a booklet they can give you on the use of the product.

If you didn't worm your birds in October or November or in some instances both (depending upon the amount of contamination), you may find your hens are not in production in the house in December as they should be. There is no dodging it, so now is the time to do some worming. If you don't think they're wormy, however, pick up several of the worst looking birds, pen them, and give them a pill. Place these birds in a coop with a wire bottom so that nothing can get to any worms they might pass through to the ground or floor underneath. If these ten or more specimens pass worms, then I would not hesitate to go to the expense of buying pills and worming the whole flock. Use a worm pill with a coating that will carry the medicine into the bird's system far enough that the dose will be effective at the right place or where the worms are. Several commercial worm pills of this type are on the market.

If any of your birds have scaly shanks so frequently seen in warmer weather and you did not treat their legs by dipping them and bathing them in kerosene several times daily until healed when it was warm, you still have the job to do. In catching birds for any of these operations, handle them carefully. You have frequently heard it said, "I don't believe in piling birds, because it is too severe." Often the severity is a result of harsh treatment in catching the birds. Use a wire trap in your house or a good standard culling coop.

For winter litter, I believe there is nothing that will wear as well or prove more sanitary in the laying house as shucks. They should be placed about one foot deep and replaced when worn to the point that they no longer look like shucks, but shreds. You can buy commercial litter if no other.

Winter is coming on so now is the time to stop all cracks on the sides and ends and on the roof. A warm, well-ventilated house is what you should have.

## GOOD TIDINGS

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.—Luke 2:8-12.

## WORLD SERIES INCOME

The world baseball series income from selling of tickets to games totaled \$1,400,000. While players' shares can only be estimated, it is believed the victorious players will receive about \$6,500 each while the losers will get about \$3,900 apiece.

Savannah, Ga., has a theater in active use which was established in 1818.

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Good foods carefully selected and properly prepared are the basis of good living. Among all the foods you serve, good coffee is probably the most important. It's the "backbone" of many menus, notably breakfast and supper, it's the one part of any meal that must be good if other foods are to be enjoyed. Hence don't take chances by trying to save a penny or two a pound. Buy the choicest, most skillfully blended coffee the market offers. Such a coffee is *Admiration*—superb in quality, rich in flavor, delightfully aromatic and inviting. More people in the Southwest drink it than any other brand. There's a reason.



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# TEXO FEEDS

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# Texas Farm News Reports

Many States have egg-grading laws, but there is none in Texas. Jesse Bass, of Crosbyton, has installed an egg-grader in his Crosby county hatchery. He says there are three main grades of eggs with two minor ones, and he grades his eggs both for hatching and for commercial selling.

An International Harvester Company cotton picker, purchased by George C. Chance, one of the big planters of the Brazos River Valley, was demonstrated near Bryan, Brazos county, during the picking season. The cotton had been defoliated in a demonstration by the American Cyanamid Company and was clean of foliage. The picker harvested an acre of cotton in approximately one and a quarter hours, traveling at the rate of two miles an hour. Cotton men estimated the crop harvested by the new machine would average three-fourths of a bale to the acre, or about 1,200 pounds. At prevailing rates for pickers, \$2 per hundred, the machine was earning money fast. It is estimated that under all sorts of conditions the machine will pick cotton at from \$9 to \$25 per bale cheaper than hand pickers.



In an open letter to farmers of Freestone county, Charlie V. Hanning, agricultural agent, says too many farmers are "fire bugs" and advised the farmers to quit burning grass, weeds and stalks that are good fertilizer and also, when turned under, hold the soil together, hold water and permit air to reach the roots of growing plants.

At the beginning of fall Texas had 1,500,000 fewer laying hens than a year ago but still led all of the States in number of producing birds. U. S. Department of Agriculture counted Texas egg layers at 21,888,000 and Iowa next with 21,478,000. Minnesota was in third place with 18,387,000. But Texas' honor was an empty one in production per hen, Texas being in 39th place, with Vermont leading.

From a one-acre demonstration Julian Reynolds, member of the Lessburg boys' 4-H club of Camp county, harvested 245 bushels of marketable sweet potatoes this year. Heavy application of fertilizer on good soil plus clean cultivation were responsible. County Agricultural Agent Ross H. Brison does not claim a record, but characterizes the yield as "unusual."

There will be no cotton acreage quota in 1946, U. S. Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson announced in November. Earlier in the month the Department of Agriculture estimated the 1945 crop at 9,368,000 bales. Estimate for Texas was slightly over 2,000,000 bales, a decrease of about 100,000 below September 1 expectations. This is the smallest Texas crop in 50 years.

Thirteen new applications for soil conservation assistance in Austin county have been approved by the Austin - Washington county district of the Soil Conservation Service.

Hybrid corn in the field may look light, but "the yield will fool you," says Troy Hiller, Jr., of Sanger, and Alex Collins, of Cooper Creek, Denton county, in a report to Denton County Agent G. R. Warren. Both harvested more corn than their fathers who used different varieties on nearby land.

Texas rice mills are running 20 to 24 hours a day, the Eagle Lake Headlight, Colorado county, reported. All varieties have been pouring in, including the late Roxoro. Fifty-five per cent or more of the crop goes to the government, while some is going to Cuba. Not all orders can be filled.

The new drug, "Phenothiazine," developed in Texas and used for the first time in doctoring sheep, is now being used under direction of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Husbandry for prevention of worms in cattle, horses and hogs. Thirty members of the Progressive Farmers Club met at Victoria, in Victoria county, recently and saw a special picture and heard instructions on use of the drug.

Steve Murrin, of Mansfield in Tarrant county, is loud in praise of soil conservation and rotation grazing. He reports that his stock go through the winter with little or no feed as a result of improved methods. He has been mowing weedy areas of his pastures, overseeding rescue grass and sodding bermuda grass on the bottom lands, in corrals and around feedlots, clearing out undesirable trees and contour furrowing buffalo grass pasture.

Turkey poults and baby chicks don't grow well together. Parmer county 4-H club boys who received awards of poults in the cow-sow-hen program last spring, were advised by County Agricultural Agent Lee H. McElroy, and not to place them with their chicks. Those who followed his advice raised 60 per cent, and those who did not, raised only about 30 per cent. The surviving turkeys were fed on waste grain and skimmed milk and went to market at weights of 20 pounds and better, McElroy says.

In times gone by Texas turkeys, like old-time Texas longhorn cattle, ran wild on the range and were rounded up periodically. Usually hens sold for 50 cents and toms for 75 cents regardless of size, age or condition. But times have changed and turkey raising is a new industry of almost incalculable value to the State. One turkey egg can bring a farmer \$10, if it is the right kind of egg. It is estimated there are more than 4,700,000 turkeys in Texas, worth approximately \$28,000,000. Production this year is 25 per cent above last year.



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## OVERSEAS GIFTS for Folks Back Home

By CHARLES W. DUKE  
As a consequence of the global war there will be a more bewildering array of gifts under the Yule trees of the United States on Christmas Eve this year than ever before in history.

For weeks every ship returning to this country has been laden with the Christmas offering of GI Joe and his fellows of the Army, the Navy, the Wac, the Coast Guard and other units for

analyzed by Philadelphia and New York perfumers from samples submitted by wives and sweethearts of soldiers.

Variety and novelty have made up in most instances, however, for any lack of quality in the gifts from foreign lands. And many a doughboy has managed to get a real bargain from a grateful merchant or an individual in one of the liberated lands. The list includes Glengarry caps from Scotland, Oriental slippers from the North African countries, real Irish linen handkerchiefs, white kid gloves hand made in Naples, sabots of wood from the Low Countries, mosquito boots of leather from Natal, Brazil, Kashmir robes and exotic items from many other foreign lands.

In the Pacific area the soldiers have had much less choice of gifts to bring home. Nearly all of them have managed to acquire grass skirts, however. They also have sent home highly-flavored native sweetmeats and decorative articles. Included are ear and nose rings which will be kept as mementoes. When nothing else is available they serve the purpose of reminding wives, mothers and sweethearts that the thoughts of their fighting men, always turning back home, do so

Ninety thousand pounds of Austrian winter peas have been distributed in Wichita county, Samuel A. Billingsley, Agricultural Adjustment Administration representative, announced. The peas, used as a winter legume to restore nitrate to the soil, cost the farmer nothing and Wichita farmers are planting 3,000 acres of them.

Chester Schmidt, of Pipecreek, Bandera county, was killed while fighting with the 85th Division in Germany. Before going to war, Chester ran the combine on the Schmidt farm and did all of the heavy work. After his death, his two sisters, Rosa Lee, age 19, and Irene Schmidt, age 20, took over, raised a bumper grain crop, operated the combine, and did all other work on the farm. Sometimes they worked from 7 a. m. until midnight.

Rescue grass is most commonly found from the blacklands west along fertile bottoms where shade excludes summer grasses. Few people know that rescue grass was introduced into this country from its native South American about 140 years ago. Herbert A. Lancaster, A. & M. College extension service specialist, explains that annual sweet clover can be grown with rescue grass to good advantage. The rescue grass helps keep the clover from bloating cattle and the clover in turn enriches the soil. If the grass is permitted to ripen and seed, a volunteer fall crop may be expected.

Billy Hancock, member of the Lesley boys' 4-H club of Hall county, this year is demonstrating a herd of 10 milking Jerseys, a herd of registered Duroc hogs, a flock of poultry and a beef calf which he entered at the Greater Pan-American Hereford Show, Dallas. Billy commenced his club work seven years ago with a pig on borrowed capital. Today he is farming 150 acres on his own. He has been a prominent leader not only in his community, but in State 4-H club circles. He was among the delegates of 24 club boys who toured Mexico in June, serving with Rodolfo Moreno, a student of the National School of Agriculture of Mexico, as joint toastmaster at a banquet in Mexico City.



their loved one at home. Millions of these returning service men and women have been ransacking the world's shopping centers.

The doughboys have been raiding the shops in such numbers that it has been necessary for the Red Cross to organize shopping brigades.

The news reels recently have shown films of GI Joe lined up as apparent spectators at fashion shows in liberated Paris. Couturiers and perfumers and specialists in other French trinkets have been reaping a harvest—if they had anything to sell after hiding it from the Germans for five years. Many of them, incidentally, have been charging prices unheard of before the war.

For a silk scarf that under normal rates of exchange could have been bought in Paris for much less than \$5.00, GI Joe willingly has shelled out 1,000 francs—or about \$20. Silk handkerchiefs have been sold as high as \$10. And the chic little sweaters have been bringing up to 2,500 francs, or \$50.

The doughboys have been particularly partial to perfume in their Paris shopping, according to all reports. At the store of one perfumer they were lined up every morning awaiting their turn to buy. In these shops the soldiers got a break in quality, according to American experts, even when they paid extremely high prices. But the same cannot be said of the purchases made in Egypt, Iran, Persia and Italy. Mixtures of dark oil and vinegar with no scent at all have been

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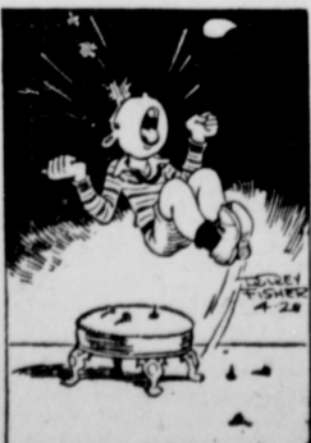
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By Dudley Fisher



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# HOUSEHOLD HELPS

By MARGARET MOORE

## YULE DECORATIONS

Do your best to get the Christmas Spirit into your good home. The war over, this should be the happiest Christmas we have had in years. Make "Merry Christmas" really MERRY. Many of us will be together this Christmas for the first time in a long while. Let's leave nothing undone to make it a day to always remember.

Take a drive or walk into the country and gather the fall leaves and mistletoe to decorate your home. Decorate the table and fill the wall cases with the leaves. Lay them on the mantle of your fireplace if far enough away from fire to be safe. Put them in the chandelier; they are lovely with the light shining on them.

Some of the forest shrubs have berries that make the loveliest wreaths. Tie them together, into a circle, and hang them in your window. Put one on your door. Make a spray for your porch and put MERRY CHRISTMAS on a big red bow and fasten the spray with it. Let the whole world know that you are glad there is peace once more in America.

Don't forget to use mistletoe around and overhead if you are lucky enough to have it grow in your locality, or can buy it in stores. Dad will surprise the life out of mom when he catches her under the mistletoe and it will tickle the kids pink.

If you have cedars in your yard or any green foliage they are nice to mix in with the fall boughs. We have an ornamental pepper in our yard and it is really effective to add to the spray in the wall vase.

Make your Merry Christmas for the bow out of white paper, just cut it out and paste it on. Tie your bow first and then you will have it in the right place.



If there's a large mirror in the living or dining room, give it a holiday air by spelling "MERRY CHRISTMAS" with red gummed paper letters across the top. Or border it with small gold stars sprinkled-on the glass.

Hunt up all the Christmas books the family owns—Dickens' "Christmas Carols," the children's dog-eared "Twas the Night Before Christmas," and other old favorites.

It's fun to cover them with new jackets of gayly patterned gift wrapping paper and keep them on a table in the living room all through Christmas week.

Want something different for the Christmas dinner table? Get an inexpensive small red drum and really move one side. Circle it with a holly wreath and fill the center with little surprise gift packages that are not to be opened until after dessert.

## A CHRISTMAS PARTY

Mom can surprise the kids by having a Christmas party for them. Kids love get-togethers and for amusement can decorate the Christmas tree. What can be more fun than decorating the tree?

If you are short on tree decorations, as most of us are because of shortages, you can let the girls pop some corn and string the popcorn with cranberries. It makes nice dangles, or can be hung in scallops all around the tree.

The smaller children like to make bright chains of colored paper. Some stores have Christmas paper for wrapping packages and you can save this for the chain. Scissors and a little paste is all they need. Santa Claus can be made of red paper with bits of cotton pasted around for white fur. Little black boots will make a nice ornament and you can tuck a stick of striped candy in the boot. Little snowmen can be made the same way. Chewing gum is back on the market, also cigarettes, both wrapped in tinfoil and enclosed in colorful packages. The little

wrappers can be folded diagonally down to a small piece and the open edge scalloped or pointed. Hold the center with your fingers and open up; shape it a little and you have a pretty flowerette that sparkles. Tie a string on the back and hang it on the tree.

Popcorn balls can be made, enough for the whole neighborhood, to have as gifts from the tree. Make little boots and fill them with candy. All the kids like to have something off the tree on Christmas morning.

End your party with all the kids singing Christmas carols and give each child a cup cake with a glass of punch. All children love cake and punch and it is good for them just before bedtime.

This is clean fun for the youngsters, and you will enjoy making them so happy. The whole neighborhood will be talking about the wonderful time they had at your Christmas Tree Decorating Party. If you are without lights for the tree try some colored globes in your lamps. It gives a cheerful effect.



## GIFTS FROM THE KITCHEN

Gay packages containing food delicacies of your own making are always among the nicest and friendliest of all Christmas gifts. But this year especially, with food less plentiful and so many hungry soldier boys coming home, gifts from the kitchen will be appropriate and welcome.

Nothing could be a nicer remembrance this year for good neighbors and friends than a jar of your canned peaches, an attractive assortment of the jellies you made last fall, a jar or two of choice preserves or some other preserved food that you make especially well and therefore made in abundance. Wrapped attractively, such gifts present the delightful appearance which is so important in gift packages.

Gifts from your canned foods shelf are easy now because the work of preparing them was done months ago. Other gifts of food, such as cookies, cakes, pudding and candies, require some time now but they make charming gifts and are worth the bit of extra effort. Often you can combine food for giving with preparation for your own family.

If you make a plum or suet pudding for your family for Christmas dinner, prepare it several days in advance and make a few extra ones for giving. Gift cookies can also be baked when you are making those

for your family. Perhaps you can even spare enough sugar to make a limited amount of the home-made candy that is always nice to have about at holiday season any if you do you will spare enough for a gift package or two.

There are countless gifts that you can give from the kitchen this year even though some of the makings are more than a little scarce. If your Christmas

cookie recipes call for whole cups of butter, use only one-third to one-half the amount of butter and the remainder of vegetable shortening. Your family and friends will still praise your cookies. The amount of sugar you use will have to be watched, of course, but almost all of us have saved up during past weeks to be ready to do some extra baking at Christmas time. By adding honey to sugar you can save almost 50 per cent of your sugar.

A glance through your Christmas list will suggest a number of people for whom gifts from the kitchen will be the most appropriate of all possible remembrances.

The following are a few recipes that may be helpful in preparing gifts of food:

### Pecan Puffs

1/2 cup shortening (part butter)  
2 tablespoons sugar  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 cup pecan meats  
1 cup cake flour  
Confectioners' sugar.

Beat shortening until soft. Add the sugar and blend until creamy. Add the vanilla. Grind the pecan meats in a nut grinder. Sift the cake flour before measuring; stir it and the pecans into the butter mixture. Roll the dough into small balls. Place them on

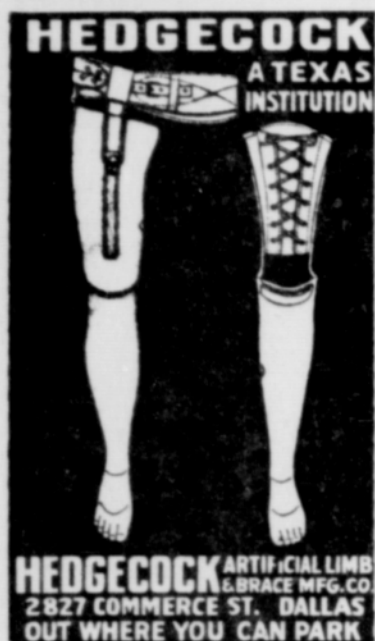


a greased baking sheet. Bake in a slow oven of 300 degrees F. for about 45 minutes. Roll the puffs while hot in confectioners' sugar. When cold, roll them again in confectioners' sugar.

These are rich and devastatingly good. Makes about 32 1 1/2-inch small cakes.

### Butter Thins

2/3 cup sugar  
(Continued top of column.)



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**FOLGER'S COFFEE**  
Mountain Grown

3/4 cup shortening (part butter)  
2 eggs  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 1/2 cups bread flour  
1/2 teaspoon salt.

Sift sugar. Beat shortening until soft; add the sugar gradually. Blend until very creamy. Beat eggs in one at a time. Add the vanilla. Sift the cake flour before measuring; resift it with the salt added. Stir the sifted ingredients into the butter. Drop it from a teaspoon well apart onto a greased sheet. Make the cookies about 1 1/2 inches in diameter. Decorate each one with a nutmeat. Bake them in a hot oven of 400 degrees F. until the edges are brown.

### Molasses Mint Taffy

1 1/2 cups light molasses  
1/2 cup sugar  
2 teaspoons vinegar  
1 1/2 tablespoons butter or margarine  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
7 drops oil of peppermint

Cook molasses, sugar and vinegar in a large saucepan slowly, stirring constantly, to 260 degrees F. or until a little of the syrup dropped in cold water becomes brittle. Remove from heat and add butter, salt, and baking soda. Stir until mixture ceases to foam, then pour into a greased or oiled pan about 12x 8x1". When cool enough to pull, drop peppermint in center, and draw corners toward the center. Press together, then pull the candy until it is light in color, and begins to harden. Then pull into 2 long strips 1/2" in diameter and cut with scissors into pieces 1" long. Wrap in Cellophane or waxed paper. Makes 80 pieces.

### Spiced Nuts

1 cup granulated sugar  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon cream tartar  
1/4 cup boiling water  
1 1/2 cups walnut or pecan meats  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla  
Mix sugar, cinnamon and cream of tartar. Add boiling water and stir over slow fire until sugar is dissolved. Cover a

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small amount of mixture tested in cold water forms a firm but pliable ball (245 degrees F.). The ball should be just a little firmer than for fudge. Add nutmeats, cool to lukewarm, add vanilla and stir with a wooden spoon until mixture forms a creamy mass. Then break apart so each nut is separate and deliciously sugar-coated.

## CHRISTMAS ROSES

Consider a couple of Christmas roses for a spot near the house. Christmas roses, botanically named helleborus niger, will bloom intermittently till after Christmas. You will be delighted with these attractive white flowers resembling large anemones.

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