

CHRISTMAS ISSUE

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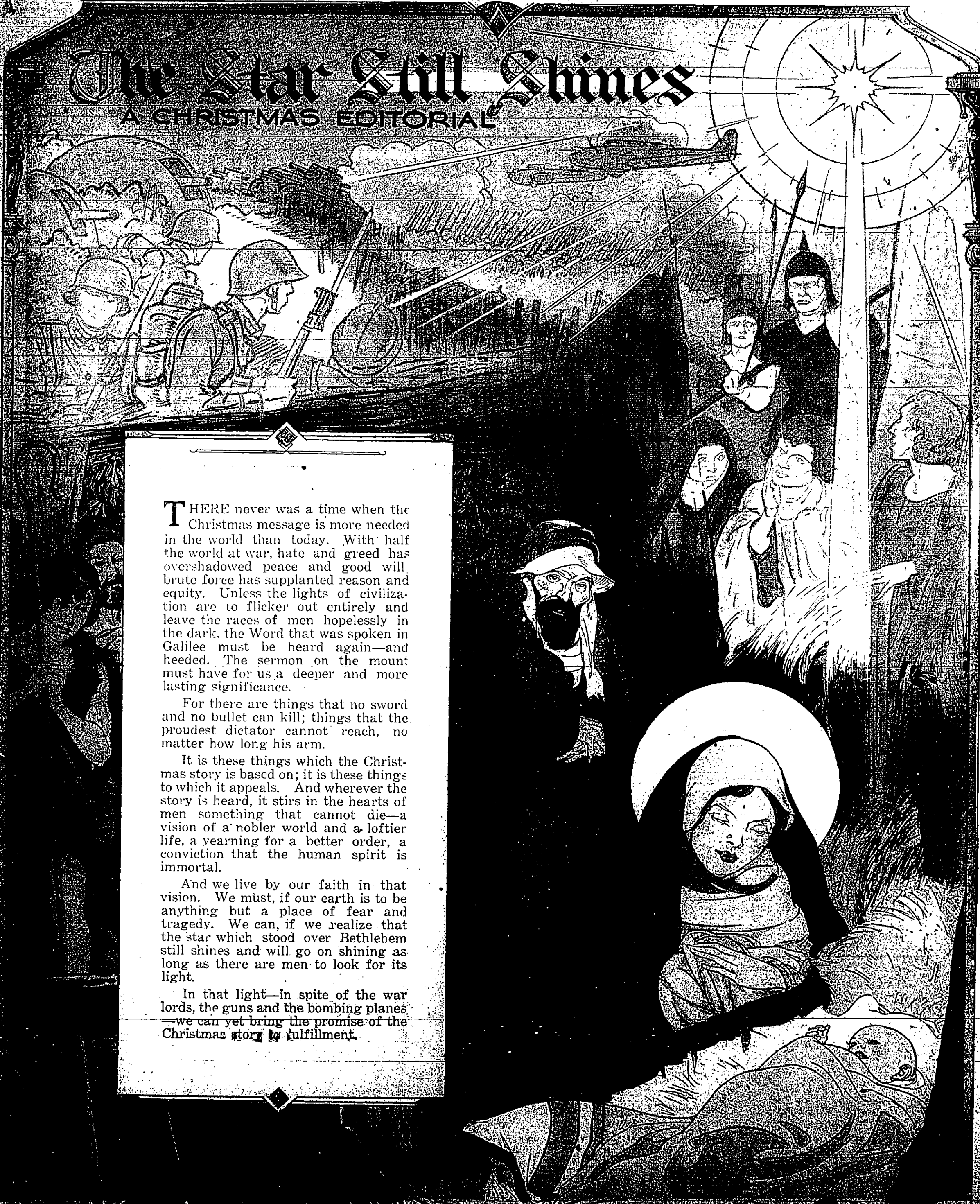
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The Star Still Shines

A CHRISTMAS EDITORIAL



THERE never was a time when the Christmas message is more needed in the world than today. With half the world at war, hate and greed has overshadowed peace and good will, brute force has supplanted reason and equity. Unless the lights of civilization are to flicker out entirely and leave the races of men hopelessly in the dark, the Word that was spoken in Galilee must be heard again—and heeded. The sermon on the mount must have for us a deeper and more lasting significance.

For there are things that no sword and no bullet can kill; things that the proudest dictator cannot reach, no matter how long his arm.

It is these things which the Christmas story is based on; it is these things to which it appeals. And wherever the story is heard, it stirs in the hearts of men something that cannot die—a vision of a nobler world and a loftier life, a yearning for a better order, a conviction that the human spirit is immortal.

And we live by our faith in that vision. We must, if our earth is to be anything but a place of fear and tragedy. We can, if we realize that the star which stood over Bethlehem still shines and will go on shining as long as there are men to look for its light.

In that light—in spite of the war lords, the guns and the bombing planes—we can yet bring the promise of the Christmas story to fulfillment.

An Old Ranger Talks About a Swell Christmas

By GARLAND A. FARMER
Henderson, Texas.

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It was while serving with the rangers back in 1878," said Frank Dalton, 91 years old and now living in Sweetwater, Texas, "that I experienced my jolliest and happiest Christmas.

"The ranger force was kept pretty busy those days chasing organized bands of rustlers who would often steal whole herds of cattle or horses in Texas and run them across the Rio Grande into Mexico. There were a few desperate characters among these rustlers who could shoot as well as any ranger and in a pitched battle with them we could figure on one or two rangers being either killed or wounded. These rustlers had been active all through the early fall, but as the Christmas holidays drew near they quieted down and we rangers had a brief breathing spell. It looked as though we might be able to enjoy at least one Christmas dinner in peace. We were camped in the Davis mountains, 60 miles from Fort Davis, Texas, the nearest town to civilization. Going to Fort Davis to spend Christmas was out of the question as we had to keep an eye on the border lest the rustlers pull a surprise raid. Yet we didn't like the idea of a lonely Christmas in the wilds of Davis mountains.

Mountain Folk Invited

"The ranger captain asked for suggestions as how we should spend Christmas. No one had an idea worth a whoop except Jeff Johnson. He suggested a Christmas tree and a Christmas dinner for the mountain folk. At that early day there were a few scattered ranchers in the Big Bend country with their women folk and children. But a Christmas tree without presents on it would be a flop. So we got into a huddle, discussed the problem and decided to send two rangers to Fort Davis to buy some presents for the tree. "Volunteers were called upon to make

the trip. Of course, everyone volunteered, but it was agreed to send the two who had been off patrol the longest. That meant me and Jeff Johnson. We started out, taking along two pack mules. Nothing happened on the trip except one of the pack mules Jeff was leading got cantankerous and jerked him off his horse. Jeff landed in some prickly pear, got mad at the mule and gave the animal a terrible beating. Then he got mad at me because I laughed at him and wanted to fight, but I jolied him out of it.

"Arriving at Fort Davis, we proceeded to do some shopping, but it wasn't at all easy. We had to buy something appropriate to hang on the Christmas tree for the women and children. We argued a long time about it and finally compromised by buying all the toys and candy that one store had in stock and all the handkerchiefs and shawls.

Two Pack Mules Loaded With Gifts

"Then we bought what was needed in the way of fill ins for the Christmas dinner. When all things were got together we had about all two pack mules could carry.

"The storekeeper also had a Santa Claus costume with white whiskers that fit Jeff perfectly, but was too small for me. We bought it.

"Late in the afternoon we left Fort Davis. Riding all night, we hit camp just as the sun was coming up—two tired but happy men.

"Meantime some of the rangers went hunting and had bagged a half dozen wild turkeys, a deer and an antelope. Other rangers rode for miles around inviting the ranchers and their families

to come to the ranger camp and join us in celebrating Christmas. And they came—from as far away as 60 miles—some horseback, some in buckboards, some in wagons. By 2 p. m. Christmas Eve there was a sizable crowd of men, women and children, all happy and

ready to eat. The camp cook, assisted by the women, had been busy broiling venison and antelope steaks and cooking bread in an old Dutch oven. The day before he had baked a lot of pies and cakes. If you never ate pies and cakes baked in a Dutch oven you have missed something. The six turkeys were reserved for dinner Christmas day, to be stuffed with pecan-filled dressing.

"After supper came time for the Christmas tree. All gathered around the tree in jolly anticipation. Jeff Johnson developed a case of stage fright at the last minute and we had to get some one else to act as Santa Claus. Luckily there was an ex-preacher among our guests who had been accustomed to appearing in public, and he volunteered to take Jeff's place as Santa Claus. Everything was now ok. The Christmas tree program got off to a good start and it turned out to be a howling success.

"No child was forgotten. There was a gift of some kind on the tree for every boy and girl and woman. I can still see the happy faces of the children when Santa called their names and they were handed a toy or a sack of candy. And the little girls would go into ecstasies over their dolls—real dolls that opened and closed their eyes. Some of the little girls who lived far back in the mountains had never known any but rag dolls made at home by their mothers.

"That Christmas Eve we sure kept the campfires burning well into the night. Groups sat around the campfires swapping jokes and telling about their experiences since coming to the Big Bend

country. It was late when we went to bed. We were in to get some sleep before morning. The women and I slept in the tents, the men under tarpaulins under the stars.

Six-Shooters and Rifles

"As the sun rose over the next morning—ushering in Day in all its glory—six-shooters and rifles began to pop. It reminded some of the rustlers who were firing with the rustlers. But this time the firing was peaceful and was meant to celebrate the birth of another Christmas day—the birth of a Christmas tree. "Well, by noon we had a good dinner, a ravenous appetite, and we were back over the mountains. One of the high peaks of the range—we were all set for a Christmas dinner of stuffed turkey, roast, Dutch oven bread, potatoes, pumpkins, plums, and coffee. There was plenty for every body and, believe me, everybody was plenty.

"About 3 o'clock in the afternoon fiddlers began to tune up and the dancing started. Such old tunes as 'Turkey in the Straw,' 'Arkansas Traveler,' 'The Blue Danube,' kept nimble feet moving to and fro all that afternoon, eight and well toward morning. "Sixty-one years have passed since that Christmas celebration, and I have seen many Christmases come and go, but no Christmas can I recall with as much satisfaction and happiness as this one of 1878 in the Davis mountains of West Texas.

A PRAYER

Dear Father, for a wounded world, and sad,
We humbly pray:
O, send again to hearts of men
Thy Christ, this Christmas Day,
To those who watch through night's dark hours.
As at the Saviour's birth,
O grant that they may hear as then,
Thy "God will. Peace on earth."



A large cedar tree had been cut from the mountain side, brought in and set up in the middle of the camp ground.

to take part in the yuletide festivities.

"A large cedar tree had been cut from the mountain side, brought in and set up in the middle of the camp ground. The women folk began to sort out the toys, candies and other gifts and place them on the tree. The tree was decorated with many-colored leaves and vines that grew in the mountains. At last all gifts were on the tree and it looked mighty pretty and Christmasy.

Venison and Antelope Steaks

"By suppertime everybody was hun-

gry and ready to eat. The camp cook, assisted by the women, had been busy broiling venison and antelope steaks and cooking bread in an old Dutch oven. The day before he had baked a lot of pies and cakes. If you never ate pies and cakes baked in a Dutch oven you have missed something. The six turkeys were reserved for dinner Christmas day, to be stuffed with pecan-filled dressing.

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Shepherds Guard Flocks As of Old

By MADLEINE S. MILLER

SHEPHERDS still watch their flocks on the rugged slopes below Bethlehem of Judea, "abiding in the field" by night, just as did the shepherds of long ago who saw "the angel of the Lord" and heard the first Christmas message. Centuries have not greatly changed the pastoral scene or the habits of life round the little town where Christ was born.

It is not hard to believe that the flocks of today resemble those of 2,000 years ago. Deep-fleeced, stout of body and tail, and caramel-colored, the sheep the traveler sees at Bethlehem blend softly into backgrounds of olive trees, rock-strewn hills and verdant valleys. Huddling close about their shepherd,



Patient shepherds still stand their peaceful guard in Palestine.

they contribute a tranquil note that benefits the land of biblical days.

At the time of the birth of Christ legions of Rome stood guard as those of Britain do today in the little town of Bethlehem. Perhaps the weary sentries of Caesar Augustus, who maintained an era of peace by arms, overheard the capture of Christmas shepherds as they came "with haste"—unusual for them—up to the inn on the edge of the hill, spurred on by the revelation of the Christmas angel: "Be not afraid . . . for there is born to you this day in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."

Arab Shepherds Watch the Flocks

The shepherds who today watch their flocks on the rough ground below the town of Bethlehem, avoiding the terraced vineyards and the well-cultivated fields of grain and vegetables, are Arab shepherds, some of them numbered among the 70,000 Christian Arabs of the country. Many have a dreamy awareness of their succession to the Christmas watchers and take mystical

pride in it, as Oberammergau villagers take pride in their Passion Play roles. Yet never a Christmas comes to Manger Square, Bethlehem, but silent shepherds fringe the throng in the courtyard of the Basilica of the Nativity. At the carol-sing in the historic Field of the Shepherds, reverent keepers of the flocks share with strangers the brilliance of their Judean stars. And sometimes they climb with the group up the sheep-walks their ancestors followed when they "found both Mary and Joseph and the babe."

Nowhere in Palestine are shepherd scenes more lovely than here in the Emir Abdullah's roomy Arab country. No wonder the shepherd has difficulty in rousing his resting flock from still waters.



Patient shepherds still stand their peaceful guard in Palestine.

He himself loves to loll under a bridge before the climb up to the broad tablelands where, thirty centuries ago, Moses led God's people "like a flock" and found space for his wandering Jews enroute to their Promised Land.

As in Days of King Moab

Trans-Jordan today can feed flocks as large as those of Mesha, King of Moab, who was a sheepmaster—he who "rendered unto the King of Israel the wool of 100,000 lambs and of 100,000 rams"—with plenty of acreage for golden grain and herds of white camels. Occasionally a prosperous shepherd rides on a donkey as he leads his flock to distant pastures or richer grazing.

Good shepherds still "prepare tables" for their flocks, not only by hunting good pastures but by plucking wisps of tender grasses for "those that have their young."

There is nothing comparable to the contentment of sheep when they feel their shepherd in their midst. Their dependence gives their guardian a high royal road, people the way. These

The Shepherd's Rod

The shepherd's rod, short and stout, with rounded ends, is carried over his right shoulder. By it the sheep are guided. Under it they pass at night to be counted. A kidskin sack is worn over the shepherd's left shoulder and contains the food brought from home—for few shepherds like to cook in the open, except at festivals. The guardian of the sheep is content with dry barley bread, cheese, olives, grapes, tomatoes, onions.

As in the time of Rachel who met Isaac when she came to water her father Laban's flocks at Haran, wells still have a strategic place in shepherd life. Wise Men's Well, on the edge of Bethlehem, is a favorite halting place where shepherd's meet to exchange gossip and to water flocks on the edge of five groves where tradition says, the three Kings who had lost their guiding star, found it reflected as they gazed their thirsty camels drink.

Usually a huge stone covers a good well and it is too much trouble to lift it until several flocks have gathered. (It is marvelous how the flocks afterward disentangle themselves, for each knows the voice of its own shepherd; "a stranger they will not follow"). Beside the stone well curb there is a hollowed stone basin from which the sheep and goats comfortably drink water, dipped up by the shepherds. This is the "cup" referred to in the Twenty-third Psalm as "running over" because of the generosity of the shepherd.

The shepherds and their flocks still add a quaintness and an old-world touch to Palestine. But they are being crowded out by modern agriculturists who, due to Jerusalem's blight, have abandoned the hills for the plains. These

The Legend of Santa Claus

DO you know the legend of Santa Claus, or do you even know if there is a Santa Claus? An 1897 editorial in the New York Sun, which is frequently quoted, advised a questioning child: "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exists, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias."

But this brief editorial could only attempt to reassure a child's temporary doubtfulness. It couldn't, in its limited space, trace the history of the popular figure, his sleigh and reindeer racing down from the North Pole.

Santa's History

Santa Claus goes back to a legendary origin in the fourth century. Then he was Saint Nicholas. In fact he's still Saint Nicholas, but in America the Dutch equivalent of his name (Sint Klaas or Santa Claus) has gained a more universal use.

Like other legendary figures, the arrival of Saint Nicholas had its prelude in a visitation to his parents. "Nicholas," they were warned, "was coming and he wasn't just going to be an ordinary child." Nor was he ordinary. To his parents, enjoying the usual pride of a new son, he was much superior to other infants born in the city of Parara, in Lycia, Asia Minor.

To more impartial observers, Nicholas was equally superior. While other infants were squirming in cribs, he rose to astonish his parents by thanking the Almighty that he had come into the world. Soon afterward he pledged himself to help God by helping his people.

Patron Saint

After this promising beginning, Nicholas' life becomes somewhat misty. Greater things, perhaps, than humans are able to accomplish, were attributed to him. Certainly all reports were to his credit. He became the patron saint of sailors when he revived a sailor who had been washed overboard on a voyage to Jerusalem. He became the patron saint of madams by dropping three pouches filled with gold into the impoverished breast of a nobleman of Parara, who had three daughters and three suitors. He was also the patron saint of the poor.

to provide them with a dowry. Certainly Nicholas was connected with gift-giving at Christmas-tide because of his habit of distributing gold to girls who were not married. Naturally, too, this generosity gave him the title of "patron saint" of maiden ladies. Gradually, his real or imagined acts became the central figure in European Yuletide.

From child Lapland, the world took his reindeer and sleigh mode of locomotion. From Russia, his boots and fur-trimmed costume. The coincidence of Christmas falling in the winter of northern Europe's nations being especially cold brought his connection with the North Pole.

Now, in America, the sturdy, jolly personification of Christmas cheer, kindness and generosity.



Ancient Beliefs in Connection With the Holly

The ancients believed that the holly possessed some mystic power which enabled it to freeze water and subdue wild animals.

The peasants of Ireland, ever superstitious, used to decorate their homes with holly to propitiate the fairies and gain their favor.

In rural English districts there were two types of holly—prickly and non-prickly. They were distinguished as "he" and "she" holly, though to which sex was assigned the prickly variety was not designated.

It is further stated that according to the holy brought into the home on Christmas, decorations being made smooth, the wife or the husband would be the coming year.

Some maintain that the holly bush from which the holly leaves were torn that Jesus wore on his crucifixion, during His crucifixion, the name of the tree signifies that he was only through a thorn.

we knew if . . . The holly was common ancient times . . . of the life of . . . reason in . . . became a . . . words . . . Venerable . . . Elizabeth . . . this . . . shadow . . .



CURRENT COMMENT

By A STAFF EDITOR

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broader than any creed
The Spirit of Christmas does not
live in any land. Not among
the adherents of any creed. Not
forever in any human heart. For
Christmas is many things and has many
meanings. For those of Christian faith it
is the birth of One who said, "Love
your enemies." It has its reverential
place in every language. Every Occiden-
tal has its holy legends,
Santa Claus, its beautiful
traditions. The first Christ-
mas was born in a German
town. And has been trans-
lated to many lands.
But the Spirit of Christmas
is broader than any creed that
men recite. It was fore-
shadowed in the earlier, purer
days of the Roman Saturnalia.
Men have given gifts, relieved
the poor, gathered around the
fire, and friends around the
comforting fires of countless
hearths, at this season, since
time out of mind.
When the Spirit of Christ-
mas is abroad the narrower
boundaries of bigotry and of
race fall away. We look deep-
ly into the memories of the
whole human race. What
poetry it has made of winter
cold and darkness, of snow,
with the shadows of bare trees
traced across it, of stars never
more beautiful than in Decem-
ber, of the blessings of fire
and food and human affections,
of the coming back of the sun
after its southward journey!
"Glory to God in the highest!" sang the
angels, according to St. Luke. "And on
earth peace, good-will toward men."
Plowshares are being hammered into
swords. People glare at each other
across frontiers with fear, hate and
suspicion in their eyes. The Western
front between France and Germany is
being guarded by millions of men and
guns that spit death and destruction.
But on Christmas day not a gun will be
fired. Soldiers on both sides will pause
to celebrate Christmas in keeping with
the customs and traditions of this good
day.

Christmas Thoughts

In spite of the prevailing festive at-

mosphere, this Christmas will not pass
without a good deal of serious reflec-
tion. And not all of the ramifying
thoughts which the day brings forth
will center upon immediate distur-
bances. Many students of current af-
fairs, whether or not of a religious turn
of mind, will ask themselves if our
civilization has lost the moral force once
found in Christ's teachings.

To a very large degree the
modern world is shaped by mat-
terialistic influences. As a
whole the people are pre-oc-
cupied with war, economic prob-
lems, social betterment and
political evolution. Nowhere, in
any of these fields, is there to
be found an equivalent for the
moral and spiritual forces de-
rived from the Christian
philosophy.

It would be the capstone of
irony if mankind should lose
the cohesive forces upon which
modern civilization depends.
The need for a greater degree
of morality is keenly felt to-
day in international affairs, in
the relations of management
and labor and between indi-
viduals. That force is not to
be found in science, or in any
of the doctrines which focus
on material benefits.

Many contemporary thinkers
are earnestly seeking a means
by which the cohesive influ-
ence of the past may be reviv-
ed through cultivation of
spiritual qualities. The con-
tributions of many current world thinkers
and writers appeal for return to the
simple virtues associated with the
Christian religion.

If the moral and spiritual forces of
Christianity were lost, the world would
have to find some other concept of
brotherhood, unity or common interest.
To date, however, mankind has found
no co-ordinating influence which has a
fraction of the efficacy of religious
faith. It may well be, therefore, that
Christmas will gain more profound
significance year by year and that this
anniversary of 1935 is far more im-
portant than many of its celebrants
realize.

Message to the World

A fine way to express Christmas
cheer is to decorate the homes. The
practice is extending year by year and
should be encouraged. Particularly
now, when American home life in its
freedom of self-expression, its peaceful
atmosphere and its priceless individ-
uality so strikingly contrasts with con-
ditions in some other countries.

Extravagant display is not necessary.
A wreath in the window, an illumina-
ted motto, a string of colored lights
sparkling in the branches of the ever-
green on the lawn, say to the passing
stranger: "This is a home, and those
safely sheltered within it extend to all
the joyous good wishes of the Christ-
mas season."

Such a seasonal message from the
household to the world cannot fail of
inspirational and encouraging effect.

12-Month Red Cross Record

It is timely at this season of the year
to review the work done by the Red
Cross for the twelve-month period end-
ed last June 30. A summary of this
agency's work, in its annual report,
listed 217 catastrophes in the United
States and its insular possessions for
which relief was rendered, including re-
lief granted to sufferers of the Chilean
earthquake last January and to refu-
gees of the Spanish civil war and the
Sino-Japanese conflict.

In meeting relief needs in the United
States, the report said, the Red Cross
spent \$2,187,279 for the aid of 130,000
persons in forty-three States and Ala-
ska. The only States which did not
have disasters large enough to warrant
aid from the organization were Arizona,
Delaware, Idaho, Nevada and Wyoming,
it added.

Types of catastrophes in which the
Red Cross gave aid, said the report, in-
cluded sixty tornadoes, twenty-five
fires, thirty-one floods, ten cloudbursts,
four epidemics, three forest fires, five-
teen wind and hail storms and nine dis-
asters of other types. In these, it was
asserted, 30,693 buildings were destroy-
ed or damaged, 706 persons were killed
and 1,990 were injured.

In lives lost and property destroyed,
the New York-New England hurricane
was found to be the most disastrous,
calling for an expenditure of \$1,682,000.

Harnessing Solar Heat

Dr. C. G. Abbot, secretary of Smith-
sonian Institute, who more than a de-
cade ago built a solar cookstove at
Mount Wilson Observatory, and con-
tinued experiments in harnessing the
sun's rays, now reports:

"Both solar cooking and solar dis-
tilling of non-potable water are prac-
ticable and efficient propositions, and
likely will be in common use before very
long, if the necessary outfits can be
produced at attractive prices. Solar
water heaters are now used consid-
erably in Florida and California.

"New Mexico could supply from solar
radiation," he declares, "over ten tril-
lion horsepower hours per year of me-
chanical power, which compares with
the power possibilities of all coal, oil
and water at present used annually for
heat, light and power combined in the
United States."

Dr. Abbot, who also has devised solar
boilers, suggests the sun's heat could
be converted into electricity and stored
in batteries or water could be pumped
by solar power to a high-level reservoir,
later to be used in a hydro-electric
plant.

"It is possible that so long as coal is
cheap and abundant there will be no ex-
tensive use for solar power. However,
small installations of two to five horse-
power units may be profitable under
favorable conditions," he said.

Christmas Everywhere

"Everywhere—everywhere, Christmas tonight!
Christmas in lands of the fir tree and pine,
Christmas in lands of the palm tree and vine,
Christmas where snow peaks stand solemn
and white,
Christmas where cornfields lie sunny and
bright,
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!"

And it is truly. No matter whether
the observance is by people speaking
our language or one of dozens of other
tongues; whether they are snowed in
or are shading themselves from the
burning sun—wherever people are re-
joicing in the birth of Christ, it is
Christmas.

Observances of this occasion always
first and foremost religious, have for
hundreds of years been accompanied by
certain festivities, centered in some in-
stances in the season and almost always
in the promotion of kindness and good
feeling in the family circle and among
friends and acquaintances.

In addition to its sacred rites, the
charm of Christmas traditions is dear
to everyone at this time. Trains, boats,
planes, buses and automobiles have been
overtaxed with hordes hurrying home
to be with their families Christmas
day. For the past week, more and
more decorations of lights and greenery
and color have appeared outside and in-
side.

Last Christmas the President lighted
a Christmas tree for the nation in
Lafayette Park, Washington, D. C.
Everywhere—Christmas; and every-
where rejoicing in the glad tidings of
nineteen hundred years ago, and the
Christmas spirit which pervades home
and friends and abides with us always
at this happy season.

The Yule Log

In England the Yule log was a huge
section of birch which was cut from a
tree selected on Candlemas-day, which
was the last day of the Christmas holi-
days. On the following Christmas it
was dragged in and placed upon the
hearth with great ceremony, the merry-
makers pulling with a will and singing
a Christmas carol. It was also kindled
with an old brand, linking each Christ-
mas to the one before and the next.

The Yule log must be watched care-
fully, wherever the
custom still sur-
vives of burning it
on Christmas Eve.
Some lore says the
Yule log is from
Scandinavian
sources where, at
their feast on the
winter solstice, they
kindled huge bon-
fires in honor of
their god Thor. The
huge log was full of
good promises and
bringing it in from
the woods where it
had seasoned all
year was a note-
worthy observance
of Christmas Eve.
Its flame burned
out old wrongs and
heartburnings, so it
was believed.

Mention of the
Yule log brings to
mind the ceremony
of bringing in the
boar's head, the
procession which
used to mark the
beginning of the
feasting of the
Christians of the
North. The
boar's head was
carried by the
priests and the
nobles.

Grass Root Reveries

By JOE GANDY

Winnboro, Texas.
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CHRISTMAS bells will soon ring
out and again we shall be wish-
ing each other a "MERRY
CHRISTMAS!" Seems not long
ago since I celebrated the last Christ-
mas and paid the last Christmas bill.
After 40 the years pass swiftly by. As a
boy—waiting to hang up my stocking
—I thought Christmas would never
come. Days seemed weeks, weeks
months and months years—before San-
ta Claus answered my letter
and brought me the
toy, train, bugle, drum
and pair of skates.
Youth lives in a
dreamland of rapturous
anticipation. A Merry
Christmas to you,
Youth, and may all
your dreams come true.

While on the subject
of Christmas, it is well
to remember that for
many there will be a lean Christmas.
The Red Cross, Salvation Army and other
charitable organizations may overlook
some worthy one who is needy and too
proud to let his wants be known. These
are the ones the Saviour must have
been thinking of when He said, "Blessed
are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven." My happiest
Christmas would be an opportunity to
seek out such worthy ones and befriend
them. I should like to speak cheery
words, kindly words to them. I should
like to lift them up, to imbue them with
courage and faith to meet and over-
come the vicissitudes of life.

And after Christmas comes New
Year. We call it new year but it is
simply a continuation of the old year with
its troubles and pains. We will have
a number of national problems—such
as unemployment, strikes, re-
belliousness and what not. Let us
pray that New Year will not add to these
troubles, but rather give us wisdom and
strength to meet them resolutely
and bravely.

Herding looms out of the
horizon. Business, as a whole,
in the United States, has been
down. Corporate earnings
in the first quarter of 1935 are
down. Unpaid taxes and other
arrears are mounting. The
business market is gloomy.
It would

not surprise me if America staged a
comeback toward prosperity in 1940.
They say you can't keep a good man
down. By the same token you can't
keep millions of good men down and we
have 'em—right here in the United
States.

Advertisers are telling us to do our
Christmas shopping early. The women
folk in my family began Christmas
shopping before Thanksgiving. I know,
because they come home with mysteri-
ous packages that they hide away in old trunks
and closets. Further-
more, there are sly
whisperings and secret
conferences—all of
which, at this particu-
lar time, has something
to do with Santa Claus.
Hope I don't get another
red necktie. The
tie I got last Christmas
was so fiery red that a
bull in a pasture eyed
me suspiciously and
pawed the earth when
he saw it on me.

The new automobile models are
things of beauty and a joy forever—if
you can afford to own one. Wife stopped
with me in front of a salesroom and
hinted that a certain pretty model car
would make a wonderful Christmas
present. I didn't take to the hint for
many reasons—mainly financial—but
also I knew wife wouldn't want to ride
in a new car in her old clothes. A 1938
model dress, hat, shoes and coat won't
match a 1940 model automobile.

A movement is on foot to get more
farmers elected to our State legislature.
That's not a bad move. Being a dirt
farmer myself, I know the why and
wherefore of digging a living out of
the recalcitrant earth. Any farmer
who makes a success farming these
days—in spite of droughts, insects, taxes,
high costs, low prices and a hundred
other restrictions—is capable of solving
legislative problems. He may not
be a college or high school graduate,
but a successful farmer has common
sense, initiative and fair to middling
judgment—all necessary qualifications
to a good legislator.

Chicago tax collectors are trying to
sell a \$4,000,000 estate for \$150,000.
The estate consists of buildings, stock,
furniture and ground, former home of

a retired Chicago multi-millionaire. It
is a 128-room mansion with 30 bath
rooms, some of which have gold-plated
fixtures. Verily, this man laid up for
himself treasures on earth where moth
and rust doth corrupt. He also laid up
on earth a colossal folly that will be
pointed out as a vain show and a prodi-
gal waste of money.

Admiral Byrd is beating it back to
the South Pole in his staunch ship to
spend another year down there in
scientific research. The Admiral, a
great discoverer of ice, snow and pen-
guins, is hardly as great a discoverer
as Columbus, but is deserving of praise
for having discovered land without peo-
ple on it to start trouble. Poor Colum-
bus was not so lucky. The land he dis-
covered had Indians on it that started
trouble. Later the land was inhabited
by whites that started trouble. Later
the whites, after getting rid of the In-
dians, started trouble among them-
selves and have been at it ever since.

Seventeen thousand new laws were
passed this year by the legislators of
all the various States. We already had
too many laws on the statute books.
America has more laws and more law
violators than any country in the world.
Why? Because about half of the law
violators go unpunished. I read a
statement in the Chicago Tribune re-
cently which said that half of the
crimes committed in Chicago were com-
mitted by repeaters—men who former-
ly had been convicted of violating the
law. Small wonder that Chicago is one
of the most lawless cities in the United
States. Maybe the answer is a return
to the whipping post for punishment of
crime. Many young criminals are
just spoiled children who need a good
sound whipping.

Here is a poem I came across the
other day and shall pass on to my read-
ers. It blends in with the holiday
season:

FOR LITTLE THINGS

We thank Thee, Lord,
For little things,
Like sunset-gold,
Or pumpkins hanging on a frosty vine;
Or gentle rain,
Or echoes from a lovely song.
For little secrets that the world will never
know;
For poems in our hearts that never shall be
rhymed;
Or blue-just plain sky, blue;
For these we thank Thee, Lord.
We might include the carols mother used to
sing;
Or Santa Claus,
Or gifts at Christmas time.
For every little thing that makes the universe
what it is,
We thank Thee, Lord,
For all the things
That make life
What it is.



IT MAY BE CRUCIAL TO YOU AT YOUR COOKING
TABLE. YULE LOGS ARE THE BEST PLAN OLD
FASHIONED BURNING OF THE YULE LOGS IN THE KITCHEN.

BRIEF TEXAS NEWS---from Over the S

LIMIT CHICKEN FLOCKS TO 100
Yoakum voters have indorsed an ordinance limiting to 100 the number of chickens residents inside the city limits will be allowed to keep.

COTTON CHRISTMAS GIFT MONTH
Governor W. Lee O'Daniel proclaimed December as "Cotton Christmas Gift Month" in an effort to stimulate purchase of cotton articles to help growers.

BIG DEER KILL PREDICTED
The State game department estimates that 45,000 deer will be killed in Texas this season. Last year 30,000 buck deer were killed, 5,000 on opening day.

FFC WILL PLANT BLACK WALNUT TREES
Italy, (Ellis county), Future Farmers high school clubs will adopt the planting of black walnuts as a project in reforestation on the Texas blackland.

BUILDING PERMITS GAIN
Building permits in 43 Texas towns during October aggregated \$10,118,168, or 46 per cent higher than the same month a year ago, the University of Texas Bureau of Business Research reported.

RABBIT HUNTERS WARNED
Dr. George W. Cox, State health officer, has warned hunters against killing slow-moving rabbits. "These rabbits," said Dr. Cox, "are apt to have tularemia, a disease that can be contracted by humans." He also suggested that rubber gloves be worn while skinning rabbits.

PECAN CROP SMALL
The Texas pecan crop this year was estimated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture at 17,000,000 pounds as compared to 23,000,000 last year and a 10-year average production of 25,120,000. The short crop is attributed to drought and insect damage.

MARRIED BY TELEPHONE
Mrs. Nettie Cottle, of Dallas, was married by long-distance telephone November 3 to R. W. Worley, of Shreveport. The marriage ceremony was conducted at the Shreveport end of the line and occupied eight minutes. The bride left for Shreveport by train to join her husband.

NAIL DIET FATAL TO COW
Paint Rock Herald: "A fine milk cow belonging to Mr. M. C. (Boy) Kemp, with a value of \$75 or more, died as the result of eating too many nails and other metals. The cow had been under the weather for several weeks, so after her death an autopsy was performed and 11 nails, 2 pennies and one small bolt were found in her stomach."

HIGHWAY FATALITIES LESS
A summary of motor vehicle fatalities by the State Highway engineer for the first nine months of this year shows 1,098 deaths as compared to 1,148 during the same period of 1938, a reduction of 50, of 4.4 per cent. More than half, 649, of the deaths this year were caused on open highways.

MASSACHUSETTS GETS \$4,000,000 OF GREEN ESTATE
In November Massachusetts was paid \$4,000,000 as taxes from the estate of Col. E. H. R. Green, formerly a resident of Terrell and Dallas, Texas. A United States Supreme Court decision upheld Massachusetts' claim that Green was a resident of that State, over similar claims from the States of New York, Florida and Texas.

NAMED CHAMPION AMERICAN BOY
Willie Lee Ulich, age 19, Burleson county 4-H club member, has been selected as the outstanding 4-H club boy in America for 1939. The selection based on Ulich's four years of club work was made by the National 4-H Club Committee with headquarters in Chicago. This is said to be the first time in history of 4-H clubs that a Texas boy has been awarded the famous Moses trophy. The award is made each year not only upon a boy's ability as a farmer, but on leadership, character and scholarship.

DOG EATS PECANS
San Antonio Light: "Miss Vivian Ortiz, 226 East Fest st., San Antonio, has a dog, Fido, with a liking for pecans. Miss Ortiz said the dog buries pecans, later scratching them up and cracking them with his teeth, carefully removing the meat from the hull before chewing and swallowing the meat."

ENGINE KILLS BUCK DEER
Engine 18, pulling a log train of the Southern Pine Lumber Company, near Diboll, (Angelina county), crashed into and killed a seven-point buck deer.

YAWNS, DISLOCATES JAW
Miss Ruth Huetz, age 19, petite University of Texas co-ed from Waco, yawned so hard in an early morning class that she dislocated her jaw.

COLLECTS PETRIFIED FRUIT
A. F. Moss, Llano ranchman, has a collection of petrified fruit, including oranges, coconuts, a watermelon and a peach. Collecting petrified fruit is a hobby with Mr. Moss.

GOAT-MARAUDING PANTHER KILLED
A six-and-one-half-foot panther that had been killing goats on Hamilton Wilson's ranch, forty miles west of Kerrville, was shot dead after the panther had killed twenty-five goats in one day.

OLDEST WOMAN CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY
Mrs. Margaret Ann Bailey, 401 California street, El Paso, and believed to be the oldest woman in Texas, celebrated her 105th birthday recently. Mrs. Bailey was born in Paris, Tennessee. She is still interested in day-to-day news events and the simple things of life.

ROAD WORK 1939 TOTALS \$29,300,000
The Highway Commission will have spent a total of \$29,300,000 on highway improvements during 1939 and has a minimum of \$25,000,000 ahead for 1940. The program next year will be somewhat curtailed due to reduced Federal appropriations but there may be added amounts from the Congress which convenes in January.

BOY SUMMONED AS JUROR
Charles Joseph Gaffney, age 10, of San Antonio, has been summoned for jury service four times in six years. Charles owns four lots in a suburb. Excused because of age, he said he had been studying hard to become a juror and believed he would make a good one.

GEOGRAPHIC AND POPULATION CENTER
Geographically speaking, the center of Texas is near Brady, say University of Texas geologists. Population center falls near McGregor, in McLennan county.

"FATHER OF TEXAS" 146th ANNIVERSARY
Texas commemorated the 146th anniversary of the birth of Stephen F. Austin, "Father of Texas," November 3. Austin was born at Austinville, Va., November 3, 1793. His body lies in the State cemetery at Austin, the grave marked by a bronze statue.

THREE MORE FLIGHT TRAINING COLLEGES
The Civil Aeronautics Authority announced it had approved three additional colleges in Texas for participation in its student flight training program. They are Austin College, Sherman; East Texas State Teachers College, Commerce, and Mary Hardin-Baylor College, Belton.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE
Free legal advice for those who can't afford to pay attorney fees has been planned by the University of Texas to start possibly in February or, at the latest, next September. The advice, it is said, will be limited to indigents.

EIGHT THANKSGIVING DAYS
While some States observed two Thanksgiving days—November 23rd and November 30th—Harlingen, (Cameroon county), observed eight Thanksgiving days by proclamation of the mayor.

RAT MADE NEST OF BILLS
Puzzled auto supply store employes, of Texarkana, who had hidden \$30 in a wall for safekeeping, only to find it gone, finally pinned the theft on a rat that had feathered its nest with \$1 and \$5 bills.

TEXAS SHARE OF AAA FUNDS
The Agricultural Adjustment Administration reported that Texas led all States with receipt of \$25,345,000 in farmer subsidies. Iowa was second with \$15,412,000 and Illinois was third with \$7,975,000.

DROWNS IN BUCKET OF WATER
While Mrs. C. P. Pritchard, near Stamford, (Jones county), was busy with household work, her 9-month-old daughter toddled to the back porch, fell in a bucket of water and was drowned.

DESCENDANTS OF NOBILITY
A record showing that 400 Texans are descendants of the New World's Spanish nobility has been uncovered by a research librarian at the University of Texas.

BUCK ANTELOPES FOUND WITH LOCKED HORNS
Alpine Avalanche: "Stanley Fulcher, of Alpine, discovered the bodies of two fighting buck antelopes with locked horns. The animals had been dead apparently three or four months, the scene of their death struggle having been on the A. H. Richardson ranch a few miles southeast of Alpine."

STILL LEADS IN 6-MAN FOOTBALL
Texas still leads the nation in the development of six-man football, according to R. J. Kidd, athletic director of the Texas Interscholastic League. The six-man game came to Texas in 1937. In North Dakota, the next largest State for the sport, there are 120 teams.

HOME BUILDING SHOWS INCREASE
Federal Home Loan Bank Board reports that the first three quarters of 1939 new home loans totaling 10,012 and amounting to \$19,835,330 were made by the 121 insured savings and loan associations in the State, compared with 7200 loans amounting to \$15,560,570 in the first nine months of 1938.

REMAINS OF HUGE LAND TURTLE
Among the fossilized remains of a number of prehistoric animals uncovered from the caliche pit near Ingleside, (San Patricio county) was that of a huge land turtle that measured three feet across the middle. Work of excavating is under the direction of Dr. E. H. Sellards, University of Texas geologist. The skeletal parts of other animals uncovered were mastodons, dinosaurs, sloths, horses, etc. Dr. Sellards estimated the deposits were about 25,000 years old.

BIG CROWD AT POSSUM DINNER
Frankston's (Anderson county), eleventh annual possum dinner drew a crowd estimated at 25,000 persons. Guests, besides East Texans, were from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, Mexico, California, Illinois, New York and Maine.

RESTOCKING GAME
The annual report of the State Game, Fish and Oyster Commission discloses that the commission has distributed, in depleted areas, the past fiscal year, 20,000 bob whites, 633 wild turkeys, 194 white-tailed deer, 33 antelope and 3,429,582 fish.

ENORMOUS SALT DEPOSIT
Dr. Albert Woldert, historian and geologist of Tyler, has announced that one of the largest deposits of rock crystal salt on the American continent is located near Bullard in the adjacent county of Smith.

BIGNESS OF BIG BEND
The Big Bend of Southwest Texas where the Rio Grande makes a wide-sweeping horse-shoe curve, is an area of 28,897 square miles. It includes the counties of Terrell, Pecos, Reeves, Garberson, Hudspeth, El Paso, Presidio, Jeff Davis and Brewster. The Big Bend territory is larger than the combined States of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Delaware. The county of Brewster alone consists of 5,935 square miles, which is larger than the States of Rhode Island and Delaware. Population of Brewster county, according to 1930 census, was 6,624, 1.1 person per square mile.

POSTAL RECEIPT
The University of Texas Business Research reports receipts in 48 Texas towns for the month last year to a total of \$1,000,000.

BIG DEMAND FOR SCRAP IRON
Based on orders in hand and expectation that Houston will continue to receive its share of shipments of 100,000 tons of scrap iron will be shipped to England from Fort Houston the next 12 months.

"JOHN GARNER" PECAN
Pecan men say that the John Garner pecan, named for Vice-President Garner, and introduced only in 1935, is of value because it does not scab, has a true paper shell, runs 61 per cent meat and is of good size. The "John Garner" was introduced at a show in Uvalde, which the Vice-President had offered a prize for the best seedling.

HORSE AND BUGGY LAWS WIPED OUT
Under supervision of its legal staff, Fort Worth is revising obsolete laws that have remained on municipal books since 1903. One of these laws prohibited the feeding of horses, mules, sheep, hogs, cats and chickens on Main and adjacent streets. The traffic code then required drivers of buggies and horses to signal with their whips when making a left or right turn.

SAFETY CITY
Amarillo gets credit for being the safest city in Texas against traffic deaths while Austin is the most dangerous, according to figures released by the State Department of Public Safety. High death tolls on highways, totaling 1,228 for a 10-month period, raised the Statewide rating to 9.9, a higher traffic fatality rate than any of the larger cities, State police said.

FINDS DEER HANGING ON FENCE
San Antonio Express: "R. E. (Doc) Brown, local cattleman, found a deer hanging on a wire fence near his ranch, 18 miles west of Pearsall. In leaping, the deer failed to clear the fence, and her legs were held tightly in the wire. The animal had been dead only a few hours when found."

DOUBLE FISH CATCH
Brownwood Bulletin: "Fishing near here, Wymon O. McInnis, of the Cox & McGinnis ranch, caught a 27 1/2 pound catfish on a 15-pound line. McGinnis actually caught two fish at the same time. The greedy catfish had just swallowed a 1 1/2 pound fish when he nabbed the hook. The tail of the smaller fish protruded from the mouth of the larger one after it was hauled from the stream."

LICENSED WOMAN TRUCK LINE
Hempstead News: "Operated by the only lady truck driver in the State of Texas with a commercial permit, the Lillie Drennen Truck Line, owned and operated by the person for whom it is named, was organized March 25, 1925 with an old Model T Ford truck and has been operating successfully ever since. At the present time Mrs. Drennen is operating with a modern 1935 Chevrolet truck and commercial trailer between Hempstead and Houston and the quality of her service has increased and solidified her business in her chosen line."

THE ABSENT ONE

By FRANK L. STANTON

"I'm thinking of you in the Christmas,
It rings like a tender refrain;
The sky is so blue,
Like the dear eyes of you,
That with me shall ever remain.

"I'm thinking of you in the Christmas,
The halls with the holly are red;
And where do you stay
On this beautiful day
Where the light on your pathway is shed?

Are you sad and lonely, dearest?
Or does joy fill your heart so true?
In a far-away land
Does some tender kind hand
Lift a flower of Christmas to you?

Oh, the bells o'er the wide world are ringing,
And the skies bend in beauty of blue;
But a thought from the past
Liveth with me at last;
In the Christmas I'm thinking of you!

WAR ON HOOKWORM
Federal agencies will launch a campaign against hookworm infestation in East Texas and eastern Oklahoma. C. M. Evans, regional Farm Security Administration director, said the work would be done in co-operation with the WPA and the National Youth Administration.

FATHER AND 3 SONS IN COLLEGE
A father and his three sons are freshman students in Sul Ross State College and the group plans to finish the four years of college together, receiving their degrees at the same time. Their names: John Godsey, Sr., John, Jr., Joe and Eugene Godsey, of Wink, (Winkler county), Texas.

TURKEY HAMBURGERS
Hamburgers made of turkey meat is a new edible discovered at Gonzales, (Gonzales county), and said to be sweeping the State for popularity. The recipe: A turkey hen is cooked in a pressure cooker. Equal portions of white and dark meat are ground together, then pressed and sliced to fit into hamburger buns with cranberry sauce and lettuce.

form 3,000 to 5,000 persons. Guests, besides East Texans, were from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, Mexico, California, Illinois, New York and Maine.

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MAC Star Drawback



By BOB...

Christmas Decorations

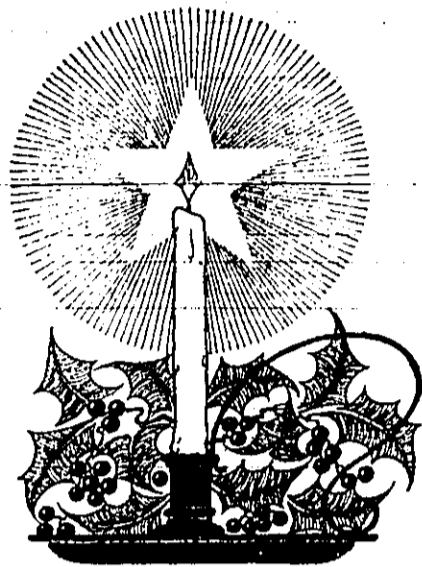
... for the home ...

HENRY B. AUL
 These could be of holly or cedar, or made of a mixture of evergreen foliage with numerous cones and berries; illuminate them at night with multi-colored bulbs, or wax candles, or with a single electric candle in the center of each wreath.

Door Decorations
 If the door is not flanked by pilasters, additional decoration may take the form of a Gothic arch of evergreen branches woven into an eighteen-inch wire-covered lights. A different effect would be obtained by using bare branches sprayed with a sparkling white or silver and flooded with red, blue or white lights.

As for the table centerpiece a decorated tree is the order of the day and if you have had the usual miniature one, try making this year's of snow-white popcorn fashion on a broad paper cone in a size to suit particular conditions. The popcorn with the whitest side out may be stuck to the cone with a sugar taffy or glue. Top it with a goldfoil covered chocolate star and stud the sides with bright red cranberries and other small fruits.

Arrange a circle of shining red apples around the base of the tree each holding a small red candle. A sprig of holly with berries is fastened to the candle with a narrow gold ribbon. With the candles lighted, this centerpiece should look good enough to eat, and will be a variation in the manner of using mistletoe over a doorway or arch requires that it be fastened to the top of one or to a cluster of small silver bells hanging from the middle of the arch and a string of colored ornaments extending across the top of the opening and part way down each side.



YULETIDE CARDS

THE problem of sending out Christmas greetings this year should not be particularly difficult, for there is a wide selection of all sorts of cards being shown. For one cent, for instance, you can send polihettias and stage coaches (including envelopes).

Shopkeepers seem to think there is a trend again this year away from the ultra-modernistic and the wise-cracking cards that have been in vogue in other years. The trend, they say, is back to the old-fashioned home scenes and such that were popular when mother was a girl.

Plenty of Both Old and New
 However, there are still plenty of cards of both the old and

the new schools of thought for those whose inclinations fit that way. There are cards fit only to put away in the bottom of some deep drawer. There are plenty of religious scenes, Christmas carols, white angels on blue paper, cards that say "Merry Christmas," "Season's Greetings" and "At Yuletide," and Santa Clauses with cotton whiskers, airplanes (not bombers) flying over stagecoaches, cards in the form of calendars, cards in the form of matchboxes with such quips as "Happy Hope this strikes you in the matches."

There are the "Merry Christmas" cards with a picture of a man in a top hat and a woman in a long dress, and the "Season's Greetings" cards with a picture of a man in a top hat and a woman in a long dress.

cards (with mistletoe) for "My Sweetheart."

A Big Business

The manufacture of Christmas and other greeting cards is a big business worth many millions annually, employing many thousands of persons in large plants in Boston, New York, Cincinnati, Chicago, Philadelphia and elsewhere. But the factories give only a limited impression of business and mass production, despite the clamor of complex color presses and die-cutting machines, despite vistas of long tables at which workers apply pigments, tie ribbons, paste foils, fold, sort and box the finished article. Most of the creative phase of the industry—composing

sentiments and sketching designs—takes place in small studios.

The industry which serves so much in the holiday season is fairly young. Within the memory of elderly folk Christmas greetings were once conveyed simply by personal letter to those far away and by handshake and spoken word to those near home.

Sir Henry Cole, British government official and dilettante, is generally considered the father of the Christmas card. In the year 1846 he suggested to the Royal Academy painter, J. C. Horsley, that a special card be designed and sent to friends at Christmas.

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near. — Isa. 55:6.

BETHLEHEM

Two little towns in the United States become nationally famous at Christmas-time. They are Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and Christmas, Indiana.

Tradition of Pennsylvania's Bethlehem is entwined with the story of Christmas. It was on a cold Christmas Eve in 1741 that the community was named.

Count Nicholas Ludwig Zinzendorf had assembled his hardy band of Moravian settlers in a log house for their Christmas Eve vigil. They sang of the Magi and the Christ Child, their voices hardly overcoming the howl of the blizzard outside.

In the midst of this reverent scene stood able Count Zinzendorf, lowering in the flickering candlelight. So impressed was he that he exclaimed: "How like the scene in Bethlehem in Judea!"

Now the community he founded has grown to an industrial city but many of the customs of the Moravian pioneers remain.

For months churchworkers have been busy preparing for the same Christmas Eve vigils, in local and other Moravian churches throughout Pennsylvania. Many of the special candles, of beeswax formed in century-old molds, are made at Bethlehem. One of the principal workplaces is an apothecary's shop that some say is the oldest in the nation.

Already the Bethlehem postoffice is busy with a flood of mail from all over the nation to get the Bethlehem cancellation on Christmas letters and packages. Many are relayed to foreign lands.

TENNESSEE GUNSMITH STILL MAKES LONG HOG RIFLES

While museum scouts and antique collectors scour the Tennessee mountains for long hog-rifles that played a part in the American Revolution, one old Tennessee gunsmith is still making them just as his ancestors did long ago.

Wiley Gibson, 72 years old and the last of 5 generations of gunsmiths, maintains his little shop at Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, near the border of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Visitors to the forge feel they are dreaming as they step from the busy twentieth century world into Gibson's eighteenth century shop where he lives and works in a realm of his own.

After looking over the old man's odd assortment of antique tools the visitor may ask Gibson if he will make him a gun. The gunsmith shifts his chewing tobacco, adjust his spectacles and responds: "Well, sir, what will you have, full or half stock, a flint lock or a cap and ball?"

And if the visitor gives the order he will find in a few months that he is the owner of a hog-rifle that will drive center with any high priced shootin' iron on the market. The guns Gibson makes today are just like those his ancestors made and he puts them together by the same crude, painstaking methods. His tools are those of the past, fashioned by his fathers from materials at hand. He is as familiar with the bellows and bow-drill as a modern machinist is with the motor driven forge and drill press. The wood from which he makes the stock was brought by the gunsmith from the nearby

mountains. The metal comes from the village blacksmith shop, just as his great grandfather did. Gibson forges, tempers, files, cuts and fits the metal parts with a nicety that belies his crude tools and hazy hands. And when the gun is finished it will fire a ball that will stop a bear or knock a squirrel from a limb.

Gibson hog-rifles were the priceless friends of mountain folk for 100 years after the Revolutionary War. They kept meat on the table and the redman away from the door. They still hang in cabins of many mountaineers who know when they look down that long barrel they will get what they shoot at. These old rifles won first and second prizes at the last "shoot" held by mountaineers in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, 8 years ago.

They got the name at the battle of Kings Mountain when Kentuckians encamped near John Sevier's men remarked: "Jerushy! Ain't them fellers totin' a hawg of a gun, though!"

CAUTION URGED IN ADDRESSING YULE GIFTS
 A warning to write the names of States in full on holiday packages to insure articles reaching their destination is urged by the post-office department.

State abbreviations, written in haste, may be illegible and confusing, especially with such abbreviations as "Mo." for Missouri and "Me." for Maine; "Cal." for California and "Col." for Colorado, and "Mass." for Massachusetts and "Miss." for Mississippi. This condition is aggravated by the fact that in some States two or three towns bear the same name in different counties.

QUALITY BAND and ORCHESTRA INSTRUMENTS

Write for catalog, mentioning the instrument in which you are interested.
 FREE TRIAL—EASY TERMS
WHITTLE MUSIC CO.
 1213 Elm St., Dallas, Texas

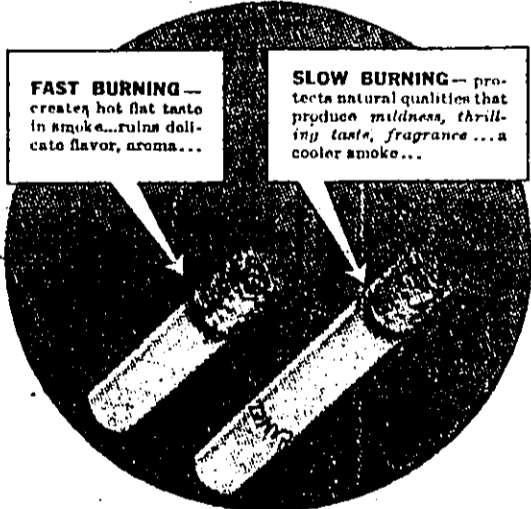
HOT DOGS IN SCOTLAND

America's hot dog, having reached Scotland recently via the Anchor Line, is being consumed there with gusto, according to the company's catering superintendent, who sent 200 pounds of the popular edible to the home port of Glasgow.

It was front-page stuff when King George VI attacked a hot dog at the Little White House picnic at Hyde Park, New York. Wires burned with plain and fancy descriptions of the event and wireless, radio and cable carried the word around the world.

And now that the hot dog has met the King of England and is making good in Scotland, perhaps some romantic soul may start a movement to build him a fitting tribute. For the inscription, it might be judicious, perhaps, to use the words set down by the Supreme Court of the State of New York when they passed grave judgment upon the hot dog. The court described them as "plebeian, but popular, elongated commodities, technically known as frankfurters, but in resort idiom characterized hot dogs." Noble terms for sausage nobility.

More puffs per pack...and More Mildness, Coolness, and Flavor with Slower-Burning Camels



The costlier tobaccos are slower-burning...milder...cooler...mellower

MANY a smoker has switched to Camels because his value-sense applauded the thrift of getting more puffs per pack. But... That's only one small part of the story of slow burning. You get a lot more than savings! You get extra mildness! Common sense tells you that a fast, fiery, hot-burning cigarette will not smoke comfortably or yield a delicate taste and fragrance. And that slow-burning tobaccos naturally would be mild and mellow. You get extra coolness. You needn't be a scientist to know that the slower tobacco burns, the cooler the smoking. You get extra-fine flavor. Excess heat ruthlessly destroys the subtle elements of flavor and aroma. Slow-burning Camels tell their own taste-tale! So...for thrift and for a smoking thrill...light up a slow-burning Camel.

SMOKERS: SAVE THE COST OF THE STATE CIGARETTE TAX

Smokers who live in communities where certain state cigarette taxes are in effect can save the cost of the tax—and, in some instances, more—through smoking Camels. (See right.) When you are a Camel smoker, you get this unique economy—and all the extra enjoyment of cooler, milder smoking—the fragrance and delicate taste of Camels more slowly.

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5 EXTRA SMOKES PER PACK!

For More Mildness, Coolness, and Flavor

Camels

SLOW-BURNING COSTLIEST TOBACCOS

TEXAS FARM NEWS REPORTS

M. E. Hill, Van Zandt county agent, reports that Carl Williams, of the Martins Hill 4-H club, was the outstanding 4-H boy this year. Carl had three projects—cotton, corn and sweet potatoes. He made 2,442 pounds of lint cotton on six acres, over 60 bushels of corn on one acre and 384 crates of sweet potatoes on 89 one-hundredth of one acre. Carl will receive around \$580 gross income on the seven acres.

Tyler county farmers, 50 in number, have planted more than half of the 5,000 pounds of grass and clover seed which they are planting to qualify for payment on the Range Conservation Program in 1939.

G. A. Bond, Jr., county agent of Martin county, reports that sodium chlorate was used to kill an experimental demonstration plot of Johnson grass in each precinct in his county this month. Demonstrations on the use of the poison will be held at experimental plots next spring.

Calvin McLeroy, 4-H club boy of Gomez community (Terry county), made a labor return of \$286.16 in three years from his swine project, according to his county agent, R. N. McClain. Calvin claims his gain has been much more than money; that in experience he has gained several times that amount. He has learned that you cannot buy feed and make money feeding hogs, but that it will pay to feed a mineral mixture, have shade and plenty of fresh water for hogs.

Charlie Ballard, of Sweeney community (Brazoria county), reports that he made 40 bushels of corn per acre this year on a field where there would not have been any corn gathered 12 years ago under the same climatic conditions. He explains that turning under all corn stalks, grass and weeds has made his land mellow and caused it to hold moisture so well that his corn grew right on through the hot, dry weather. Admitting that plowing under the stalks and other vegetation is harder work than burning it, he found he was more than paid for the extra trouble.

J. C. Bolding, of Lakeview community (Floyd county), is taking steps to prevent all the rainfall on his farm ruining 40 acres of good grass land and forming a lake which is of no use. He turned his 640-acre farm over to the Land Use Planning Committee to set up a broad base terracing demonstration. Since Mr. Bolding is a wheat farmer, terraces have been constructed that average 60 feet in width, 18 inches in height and can be traversed easily with a combine. A few days after the terraces were constructed a 2-inch rain fell and none of the water that fell on his farm ran to the lake, while the neighbors had their lakes full of water. Mr. Bolding is well pleased and his neighbors are becoming quite interested.

Mrs. Clarence Furr, fruit plot demonstrator of the Ithen Mills home demonstration club, (Collin county), reports that she believes a winter cover crop planted in the orchard and plowed under as a green manure crop early in the spring will be of much benefit to young growing trees. Recently Mrs. Furr had wheat planted in her young orchard, so that when plowed under at the height of about 10 or 12 inches, it will add humus to the soil. The cover crop should not be allowed to grow too rank before being turned under, otherwise it will take moisture out of the soil that will be needed by the trees next summer. Besides wheat, oats and yellow blooming clover are also good as winter cover crops; clover especially, as it adds nitrogen to the soil besides other materials.

G. P. Smith, Gregg county stockman and farmer, has achieved a record in livestock breeding. Smith has 41 cows of breeding, and this fall he sold 41 calves, representing 100 per cent calf crop.

Wheeler county landowners are providing more protection for prairie chickens as a result of their fine work in devouring huge numbers of army worms which seriously threatened the cotton crop in that section. Local growers estimate they saved as much as a bale of cotton per 8 acres because of the game birds, and plan to raise red-top cane, kaffir corn, sudan and maize for them to feed on.



Farmers in the Ennis trade territory (Ellis county), will receive approximately \$50,000 less for their pecan crops this year than in 1938, local pecan buyers and shippers estimate. Growers report the crop is unusually short.

Armadillos and tumble weeds, heretofore almost unknown in Henderson county, are reported to be plentiful this year. Stockmen say they are finding the little armored rodents in considerable numbers near the brakes and marshes, and the weeds are just as numerous.

A Dallas county milch cow on the Daffron farm near Seagoville set a mark with calf triplets recently. A bull calf weighing 30 pounds was the first arrival, followed within an hour by twin heifer calves, each weighing 22 pounds. All three calves are reported doing well.

The average hen in Texas doesn't pay for the cost of feeding and raising it, J. D. Sykes, poultry co-ordinator of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has declared. Sykes told a convention of the Texas Baby Chick Association that figures show a hen in Texas may be expected to lay 90 eggs a year, and the owner requires a 100-egg output to break even. The national average, he said, is 82 eggs per year.

The farm population of Texas declined about 27,000 in 1938, leaving a total of 2,233,000 at the end of the year, according to a survey recently made by C. Horace Hamilton, economist in rural life, A. & M. College, in collaboration with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The decline represents the net loss of a migration loss from farms to cities of 59,000. Indications now are that the 1940 census will reveal the farm population of Texas will be more than 100,000 less than in 1935.

At Aldin, (Travis county), a group of enterprising boys rent their pet ducks to local housewives, who release them in their gardens. The ducks make a clean sweep of insects without destroying a single plant—and bring their owners a rental fee of 50 cents per day.

Farmers in the Elgin area, (Bastrop county), have been bothered this fall by the very destructive cut ant, T. H. Royder county agent, reports. A quart of High-life added to a barrel of water and poured in the ant-bed is given as a practical way to get rid of the pests. After application of the mixture, the hole should be covered up and tramped down.

Enough fruit trees and berry vines to make a row from Brownsville to Daltart and half-way back were planted by Texas 4-H club girls during the past year, says Omaha Jacks, State girls' club agent for the A. & M. College Extension Service.

World War tear gas is now being put to a more humane use by Dr. George H. Godfrey, plant pathologist at the State experiment farm, Weslaco, (Hidalgo county). Chloroperin, as the gas is known, is being used to sterilize soil so that plants will grow better. The gas destroys nematodes, injurious fungi and weed seeds, removing competition for the plants.

Twenty-eight hundred pounds of potatoes produced on one-fourth acre of land this year is the record claimed by Fred Ganoa, at the Cannon Stock Farm, Madisonville, (Madison county). Last March the quarter acre was planted to Bliss Triumph potatoes. June 1, 1200 pounds were harvested. The land was then planted to Porto Rico potatoes, and in October 1,680 pounds were harvested.

Mr. Harry Thompson, of the Azle community, (Parker county), is improving her range land by fencing 700 acres with sheep and goat wire. She also placed over 400 goats on her range, hoping they will destroy a lot of the underbrush around her pecan trees. She plans to improve a part of her pasture each year so she will be able to vary more livestock on the range.

According to Tom Lee Easley, Nueces county agent, poison bran bait has been found effective as a stomach poison for a great many insects who have chewing mouth parts. The formula: Mix 1 pound of Paris Green with 25 pounds of dry bran. This mixture should be moistened with a solution of molasses and water, prepared by mixing 2 quarts of cheap molasses and 3 1/2 gallons of water. To increase the efficiency of this bait, add two finely chopped lemons. To control cutworm-infested fields, the bait should be applied broadcast and preferably at sundown. About 10 to 12 pounds of wet mash should treat an acre of ground.

The lowly cedar tree which the government pays to have cleared from Texas hills, may yet come into its own as the source of oil used as a fixative for perfumes, soaps, cosmetics and camphor oil, in the opinion of chemurgists at John Tarleton College. Oil from cedar leaves may also be developed into an insecticide, it is believed, if conditions stabilize and demand for distillation becomes profitable.

Cash prizes totaling \$26,910 will be offered to livestock exhibitors at the forty-fourth annual Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show in Fort Worth, March 8 to 17. John B. Davis, secretary in a general, has announced.

Farmers, plagued by leaf worms in cotton fields of the Madera valley, have imported a parasite, Trichogramma Minutum, to help them combat the invader. Hardly visible to the naked eye, the parasites are natural enemies of leaf worms and clear them out of cotton fields by destroying the worms' eggs.

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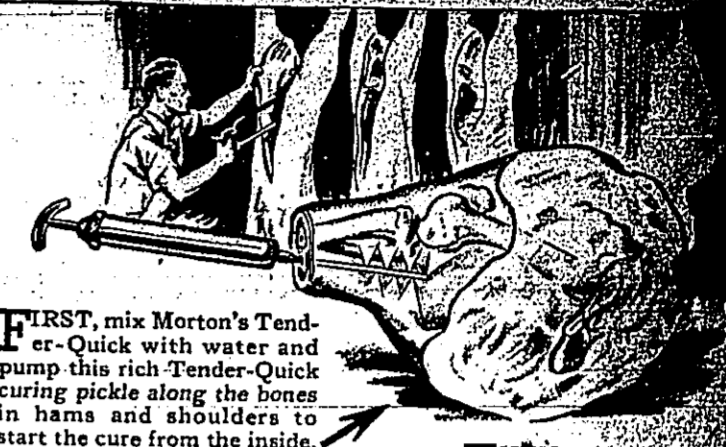
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THIS METHOD OF MEAT CURE PREVENTS TAIN'T AROUND THE BONES GIVES DELICIOUS SUGAR-CURED SMOKE



THEN—cure from the outside in the regular way by rubbing on Morton's Sugar-Cure. The use of Morton's Tender-Quick and Sugar-Cure gives you a complete job—nothing else is needed.



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KEROSENE-DISTILLATE GAS OIL — MOTOR OILS — GASOLINE
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"Canned cow feed" (ensilage) made the difference between an asset and a liability in the L. R. Casteel dairy herd of Galveston county, according to M. B. Vieman, county agent. Mr. Casteel filled two trenches with Red Top and Schrock this season, expecting to have one trench for winter feed and the other for reserve. The reserve however was bought into use when, because of unusually dry weather and short grass, this fall, his cows began to drop in production and lose flesh. He reports that even though he cut his concentrate ration nearly half, the cows began gaining in weight and production as soon as he started feeding silage and are maintaining that production.

Two years ago J. B. Burckett and C. K. Ryan, Duval county farmers, began demonstrations in feeding bone-meal to cattle. This year no cases of creeps have been reported on either ranch. The two ranches are in different sections of the county and represent two different types of ranch land, but results of the demonstrations have been the same. Before feeding the bonemeal, creeps were common; especially during dry weather. The results are even more satisfactory, taking into consideration the fact that rainfall in Duval county has been below normal since 1936. A mixture of 2 parts salt and one part bonemeal was used.

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 YOUR MONEY BACK IF RATS DON'T DIE
KRO KILLS RATS ONLY

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"MAKIN'S" SMOKE-JOY
 A PIPER-HOW TO GET IT

In recent laboratory "smoking bowl" tests, **PRINCE ALBERT** burned **86 DEGREES COOLER** than the average of the 30 other of the largest-selling brands tested—coolest of all!

COOL smoking means a feature "makin's" smokers, too, praise in Prince Albert. P.A.'s choice tobaccos smoke MILD so that the rich, full-bodied taste comes through delightfully. **FAST-ROLLING!** You bet! Neater too. Thanks to P.A.'s "crimp cut," there's no spilling or bunching. Easier-drawing too. For all-round "makin's" smoke-joy, there's no other tobacco like "no-bite" Prince Albert! (New joy in a pipe too.)

IT'S SWELL THAT SUCH A **FAST, NEAT - ROLLING TOBACCO** SMOKES SO **MILD, YET SO TASTY!**



PRINCE ALBERT
 THE NATIONAL TOBACCO

OLDY'N ENDS
 EARTHQUAKES THAT ORIGINATE AS DEEP IN THE EARTH AS 400 MILES HAVE BEEN RECORDED

35 CLIPPER SHIPS COSTING NO MORE THAN THE LARGEST BOAT EVER BUILT IN THE U.S. COULD CARRY MORE THAN 6000 SOLDIERS TO EUROPE IN THE TIME REQUIRED BY THE BOAT TO TRANSPORT WOOD.

IN PLACE OF GASOLINE, A STOCK CAR, CHANGED IN BUT ONE MINOR RESPECT, MADE A DEMONSTRATION RUN ON LIQUID COAL, A FINELY PULVERIZED COAL SUSPENDED IN AN OIL CARRIER.

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POVERTY SEEKERS

A new religious movement is sweeping Jugoslavia. Its followers, called "Goodseekers," think they must be poor to find salvation, so they are trying to give away all their earthly possessions.

It's customary for a minister, priest or nun to slight worldly wealth, but among lay members of a church it's unusual. However, it has happened before.

In 1000 A. D. many people thought the millennium was over, and the end of the world at hand. The millennium is the period which the Bible says will precede the last judgment. To prepare for eternity, the people gave away all they owned and went into the hills to await the day of doom.

But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. Acts 20:24.

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J. E. HAMMER MILL REPAIRS. Largest stock in the West. New and Rebuilt Mills. 1/2 cheaper than last year. Motors, Stamps, Custom Mills, Belting, Saw Chains. E. A. LESTER, 219-29 E. Grand, Oklahoma City, Okla.

WELL MACHINERY AND TOOLS

FORT WORTH SPINNERS
STEAM ENGINES and HAMMER MILLS
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Fort Worth, Texas.

MISTLETOE KEPT EVIL AWAY IN OLD ENGLAND

With the approach of the Christmas season, greens for decorative purposes become a subject of increasing interest. One of them, mistletoe, rich in legend, is used each year by those desiring to keep alive old and interesting customs.

Mistletoe is a parasite on many kinds of deciduous trees and derives its life from them. Occasionally it is found growing upon an oak, and because the oak was the sacred tree of the Druids in old England anything growing on it was also sacred.

The mistletoe oaks were worshipped especially by the priests and once each year became the scene for elaborate ceremonies. A priest mounted the tree, snipped off very small fragments of mistletoe with a golden sickle and dropped them onto a white cloth upheld by other priests. Later these fragments were given to the people to be cherished as charms against evil.

In some remote sections of England we find mistletoe sprigs still considered good luck, just as horseshoes are in this country.

Mistletoe is of wide distribution, for its sticky seeds are carried about by birds and left in bark crevices.

Because the berries ripen after winter comes the plant, among the ancients, won a reputation for strength and power. It was called "The golden twig," probably from its yellowish color. It had to be found in a dark wood by night, where it was said it "glowed." Under certain conditions mistletoe is faintly phosphorescent and shines in the dark.

In this country mistletoe grows from New Jersey southward to Texas. It is interesting, too, to know that there is a mistletoe found in Canada. It is a tiny brown plant parasitic on the balsam fir. Occasionally a twig may be found on a Christmas tree. It has no significance except its relationship to the mistletoe of superstition and legend.

EAT LESS AND EXERCISE MORE

For many years it was felt that overeating was the only cause in about 95 per cent of the cases of overweight, and that about 5 per cent were due to lack of gland juices—thyroid, pituitary, adrenal, and sex. Today it is believed that a combination of the two—overeating and gland disturbance—is the cause in a great many more cases than was previously thought.

In a study of this subject in 523 cases as reported by Drs. D. M. Dunlop and Murray Lyon in the Edinburgh Medical Journal, these physicians consider it probable that, in the majority, overweight is due mostly to overeating and underexercising and in a less degree to some gland disturbance.

The thought then in overweight is that no matter what is causing the overweight, too much food and not enough exercise is mostly to blame and that when less food and more exercise can be taken safely this method of reducing must be given first place. When the results of eating less food and taking more exercise over a period of months is disappointing, the addition of one or more gland extracts as prescribed and supervised by a physician may be all that is needed to bring about a satisfactory reduction in weight.

Our Boys and Girls

AUNT MARY, Editor, Route 5, Box 179-B, Fort Worth, Texas.

DEAR FRIENDS:

Well, my dear boys and girls, another Christmas rolls around and soon we shall be hanging up our stockings and wishing each other A MERRY CHRISTMAS! What a glorious time is Christmastime, and how we all love it—young and old. Though a joyful day, it should also be a reverent day, for it honors the birth of our beloved Saviour. Therefore, as we think of Christmas, may we also think of the Christ Child, born in a manger, far from home and the comforts of home life.

As this holiday season let us all do something to make some one else happy. The finest way to do this is to give of ourselves and of our time. Why not make an interesting scrap book and send it to some hospital for a little child who is confined to bed? Maybe you could read for an hour a week to some old or blind person, or speak kindly to some old person who is feeble. I am sure all of you can think of a great many things you can do (Christmas week to make some one happy. And don't forget mother. Help her during the holidays which are the busiest days of the year. The story I am sending you this month will bring the joy of giving closer to your own life.

I wish for all of you a happy time, a kindly heart, a ready smile and the will to do for others.

Yours truly,
(Signed) AUNT MARY.

they had been polished in honor of the little boy's visit. The hall was hung with old portraits of knights in armor and ladies in silk gowns. There was a staircase that wound up a balcony that overlooked a garden. The walls of one room were covered with pig skin, upon which flowers had been stamped together with this verse:

"Flowers fade fast,
But pig skin will last."

And there stood chairs with quite high backs, heavily carved and with elbows on each side.

When the little boy came into the room, the old man said, "Thank you for the tin soldier, my little friend. Thank you, too, for coming over."

"Thanks, thanks!" or "Crick, crick!" said the tin soldier.

On the wall hung a picture of a beautiful lady and cheerful in appearance, but dressed in the fashions of long ago.

"Where did you get her?" asked the little boy.

"From the dealer opposite," replied the old man. "Many pictures always hang there. No one knew when the farmers were taken away; then in the spring the old house itself was torn down. Another house was built which had large windows and smooth white walls. In front of the place where the old house had stood was a little garden. The sparrows sat down in dozens upon the vine branches, and chattered merrily. Many years had gone by, so many that the little boy had now grown to be a man, a very kind man. He had just married, and had come with his wife to live in the new house with the beautiful garden.

One day the young husband stood watching his bride dig in the dirt with her hand. It was Christmas again, but the weather was mild, and together they were planning the garden they would plant in the spring.

"What is this?" said the young bride as she began to dig something from the ground. Sticking out of the soft earth was a pointed object. Yes, indeed, it was the tin soldier that had been lost so long ago in the old man's room. It had lain hidden for all those years.

"Let me see him," said the young man, as his wife carefully wiped away the dirt. Then he smiled and shook his head. "It can scarcely be the same, yet it reminds me of a tin soldier I had when I was a little boy."

Then he told his wife about the old house, the old man and of the soldier gift he had sent across the street to the old man. Tears came to the eyes of the young wife as she thought of the old house and the old man.

"It is possible, after all, that it may be the same soldier," said she. "I will take care of him and remember what you have told me."

The young man shook his head again; he couldn't believe it was the same toy, and the little soldier seemed happy now because he could live again in a house of laughter on another Christmas day.



CHRISTMAS IN THE OLD HOUSE

It was Christmas day in the little house with green shutters, and a very happy Christmas had been. The floor was littered with toys, tissue paper and tinsel from holiday wrappings. The young father and mother looked with radiant happiness at their son and then at each other. They were happy and thankful for all that God had given them.

The little boy sat on the floor, idly fingering two toy soldiers, but his thoughts were on a house across the street. It was an old, old house, about 200 years old, and if one had good eyes he could see the date of its erection carved on the beam. Suddenly the little boy jumped to his feet and ran across the room to peer out of the window. He could see the darkened windows of the old house, the second story projecting over the lower one and close under the roof a leaden gutter with a dragon's head. The rainwater was supposed to be drained through the dragon's mouth, but it ran out of the creature's body instead, because of a hole in the pipe.

The little boy didn't care though; he thought the dragon was very grand, and liked to pretend it was alive. All the other houses on the street were new, but the little boy loved the old one best of all. It was a good house to look at; and in it lived an old man who went about in leather knee smalls, wore a coat with great brass buttons and a wig.

Every morning a man came to clean the house and run the errands. With this exception the old man in the leather knee smalls was all alone in the old house. Sometimes he came to the window; the little boy would nod at him and he would nod back. Thus they became friends although they had never spoken to one another. The little boy had heard his parents say the old man was wealthy, but terribly lonely.

The little boy, looking out of the window, thought of his own happy day, and began to wonder if the old man had received any gifts at all. He returned back to the littered floor, picked up some lovely red wrapping paper with gay seals, and carefully wrapped one of his little tin soldiers. He was determined that the lonely old man would have at least one gift.

When the door of the old house was opened by the man who ran errands, the little boy said, "Will you take this to the old gentleman for me? I have two tin soldiers; this is one of them and I want him to have it because I know he is terribly lonely."

The attendant looked quite pleased, nodded and carried the tin soldier into the old house.

After awhile, the attendant knocked at the door of the little cottage and asked if the boy could come himself and pay his master a visit. His parents gave him permission and so it was that he came to the old man's house.

The brass boxes on the staircase shone more brightly than usual; one would have thought

after the departing vehicle. One by one all the things the little boy loved so well were taken away; then in the spring the old house itself was torn down. Another house was built which had large windows and smooth white walls. In front of the place where the old house had stood was a little garden. The sparrows sat down in dozens upon the vine branches, and chattered merrily. Many years had gone by, so many that the little boy had now grown to be a man, a very kind man. He had just married, and had come with his wife to live in the new house with the beautiful garden.

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FRIENDLY HOBBY CLUB

Best wishes to all the members of the Friendly Hobby Club. May all the good things of life be yours, and the assurance of life eternal. May God watch over and guide you through the coming year in my heartfelt wish—and above all—A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

CHRISTMAS TREES

A warning that Christmas trees create fire hazards has been issued by the National Fire Protection Association. "Use only fire resistant material, such as mineral wool or properly treated cotton, to represent snow, and be sure the decorations are nonflammable. Test electrical connections. Do not illuminate with candles. Remove the tree as soon as Christmas day passes as it tends to dry out and fire more easily if kept too long," said the association.

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BURNS LIKE ELECTRIC ONE. Price \$2.00, but will send on part payment of \$1.00. Send for pamphlet on how to care for our light, and how to make money with it. Electrical Effect Light Co., 1410 Robin St., Houston, Texas.

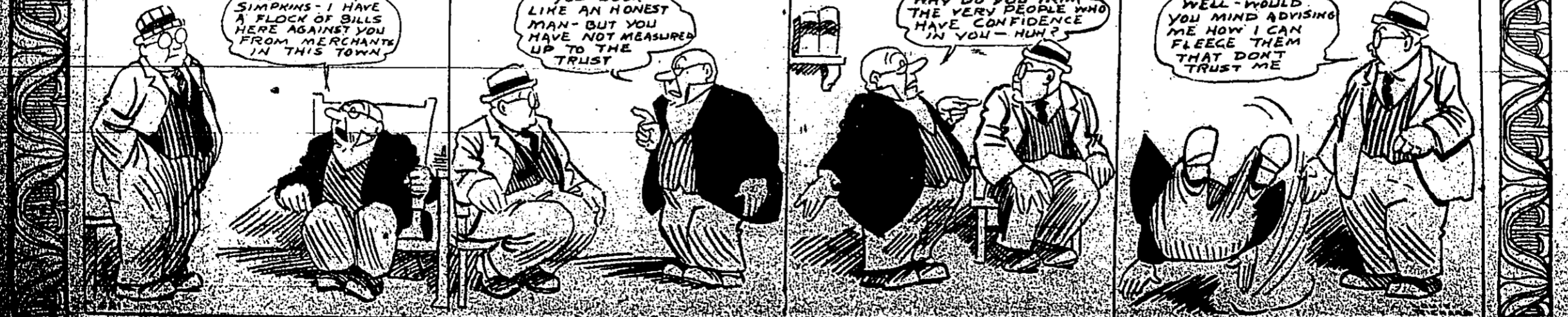
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BY LOUIS RICHARD

CHRISTMAS TREES

Everything grows to be wisely used. Like an annual harvest of wheat or tomatoes, trees also grow to be used. As fence posts, firewood, pulpwood, or timber they contribute much to man's happiness, but used as Christmas trees they offer an even higher service to man; they are his symbol of hope and life and God.

Proper cutting is not a menace but rather a means for improving the forest. Removing some trees from a crowded stand is beneficial to the remainder. Out of several thousand trees which begin life together on a given acre, only two or three hundred survive. A forester hastens development of better trees by a timely thinning out of the weaker ones.

The holiday trade in evergreen trees is a five to 10 million dollar yearly business that offers an opportunity to earn bread and butter, plus Christmas extras, to tree cutters, farmers, merchants and emergency laborers.

HOLIDAY POSTMARKS

Postal officials chuckled as they look over the holiday postmarks of cities throughout the United States.

The big business getter still is Santa Claus, Ind., where thousands of folks annually send gifts and cards to have them remailed with the Kris Kringle mark.

While Indiana has the only Santa Claus postoffice in the country, Idaho has a pretty good offering in just plain—Santa.

Florida may not have snow and ice, but it has a town named Christmas, Kentucky, too, has a Christmas.

The postmark Bethlehem attracts a lot of holiday business. The nation offers seven Bethlehem postmarks to choose from, as follows: Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania.

For those who want decorative postmarks there is Holly in Colorado, Michigan and Virginia. And in Kentucky there are Hollyhush and Hollyhush.

CHRISTMAS AT SEA

Christmas is observed at sea by ships of all Christian faiths more than any other day. No matter whether the vessel is cruising in the Red Sea, being buffeted by big seas off the Cape of Good Hope in stiff northeasterly or even battered by a "Southernly Buster" in the Australian light, the ships are decorated with holly and mistletoe and the bands play while the passengers dance and sing.

The American, British, German and Dutch ships, and also the Scandinavian passenger liners, observe Christmas Day with all kinds of good cheer.

The Italian and French ships make more of New Year's Eve, since they observe Christmas from the religious viewpoint, but they also have special dinners for passengers and the crews.

1,800-YEAR OLD AQUEDUCT

A 2,000-year-old drain in the market place at Athens, Greece, will again be put into service. The Greeks may have had a word for it, and apparently their word for their water system was "durability." A 1,800-year-old aqueduct, which carries water to the city from a distant of 10 miles, was repaired and has been in constant use for 75 years.

HOUSEHOLD HELPS

MRS. MARGARET STUTE, Editor, Route 5, Box 179-B, Fort Worth, Texas.

HOLIDAY FESTIVALS

Even though war clouds, depressions, unemployment and other burdens tend to sadden our homes, we should put forth extra effort to make the holidays happy and pleasant for our children. Day by day in the home, school and public place they hear the horrors and hardships of modern war. There is much we can do to counteract this unhappy memory of their childhood.

We should first direct their attention to the real reason we celebrate the holiday season. America has drifted far from the true significance of Christ's birthday. Too often it is just a time for lavish giving and eating with perhaps a little "charity-giving" to ease our guilty consciences. If we want to make this a really joyous and never-to-be-forgotten Christmas, let us do two things: forget the tinsel, glitter, selfishness, and recall a manger cradle with a little babe.

Then let us focus our eyes on Him and remember the shadow of the cross. As we think on these things we will recall His words, "Even as ye have done it unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Not only shall we reverently observe His birthday, but we should take action—putting His thoughts and teachings into our deeds. Not only should we administer clothing and

food to the poor and unfortunate at Christmas-time, for what is known as an "emotional intoxicant," but arrange a definite program of helpful activity throughout the year. Welfare agencies handle the distribution of food and clothing in an efficient manner to provide for bodily needs. How much more we can give if we want, for example, to the hospital or home of some invalids and read to them for a few hours each week. Or find some mother who is greatly overworked and help her with her tasks both physically and by imparting a smile and kind word to her and all we meet—no matter how tired and discouraged we may be.

There are many ways to bestow gifts and you will find that if the giving requires sacrifice on your part, your own happiness will be increased. The real gifts are from the heart, and come from love and understanding of our fellow man. Happiness brought about by this kind of giving alone is abiding and lasting. Such an attitude will surely bring contentment and the true Christmas spirit for which we strive. In the joy of doing good we will forget the troubles of life and find "the peace that passeth all understanding."



CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO THE HOUSE

One of the happiest families I know worked out a plan to pool the money they would have spent for individual Christmas gifts to one another, and will use this mutual fund to convert their cellar into a recreation room. While helping my friends with the idea, we visited several attractive homes where basements had been made into play rooms. For your guidance I am passing on some of the information we gathered.

One home we visited had a hobby basement room. The walls were white, the floor a dark gray, and plenty of cabinets had been built to house the collection. A very blue, heavy, woolen rug was used for upholstery, the furniture, and also appeared in the rug rugs.

Another transformed cellar had a sand-colored painted walls and ceiling. The floor was aquamarine and the upholstery combined coral with aqua.

Gay cloths and balloons, stenciled on the white walls of another play room, were done in red, yellow and blue. The floor was painted to match the dark blue hangings at the windows. Toys, swings and slides were of natural wood, well-sanded and varnished.

Still another recreation room had canary yellow walls with chocolate-colored painted bars running up and down them. The bars

were painted monkeys, seals, kangaroos, elephants, giraffes and other circus animals. The slide, see-saw and sand boxes were painted cherry red.

If the play room is to be used for older children and grown-ups as well, you may still use the same background but with different furnishings.

Perhaps you would prefer a quiet study room instead of a recreation room. If so, the following is a description of an ideal one. The walls were a soft gray with a somewhat lighter ceiling. The columns were pale gray, fitted around with shelves on which were bright Indian shells and pottery.

Upholstery on natural-finished furniture was in autumn reds and yellows, and a bear skin rug was displayed against the background of a red-brown painted floor. Another study had a distinctly masculine atmosphere, with beige walls, natural finished cabinets, upholstery in hunter's green and curtains of monkey's cloth.

A smart sports room had lemon-yellow walls, clear varnished bowling alley, dark green painted floor and bench upholstery and hangings which ranged from cardinal to maize and tangerine.

If desired, painted floors can be covered with gray-patterned linoleum. A few rag rugs add warmth to the room, and are easily cleaned.



CHRISTMAS FESTIVALS—WE DINE

Many fine ideas for correctly and cleverly setting the table are on display in most stores, so I am going to increase the number of recipes instead of the usual article on table decorations. The recipes were especially chosen for holiday festivals.

SPECIAL TREAT IN A MINUTE

Orange Cheese Anglaise
On toasted buttered halves of muffins arrange Swiss cheese cut in matchstick pieces. Sprinkle with shredded orange peel, candied or fresh. Toast in hot oven. Serve at once.

PARTY CAKE

Cocoanut Lemon Cake
Bake white cake in two thick 9-inch layers. Split layers in half to make four layers. Spread Cocoanut Lemon Filling between layers and on top and sides of cake. Sprinkle cocoanut generously over sides and around top edge of cake to make 1-inch rim, leaving circle of filling in center.

Cocoanut Lemon Filling
3 cups water
3/4 cup lemon juice
3 1/2 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 cups sugar
1 cup flour
1 egg yolk
1 tablespoon grated lemon rind
1 tablespoon butter
1 can Baker's Southern style cocoanut.

Grape-Nuts Mousse
1/3 cup sugar
2 egg whites, stiffly beaten
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 cup Grape-Nuts
1/4 cup water
1 cup cream, whipped

Bring sugar and water to a boil and boil until syrup spins a thread when dropped from tip of spoon (232° F.). Pour slowly over egg whites, beating constantly. Continue beating until mixture is cool (about 3 minutes). Fold in cream and vanilla. Add Grape-Nuts. Place in freezing tray of automatic refrigerator and let stand 3 to 4 hours, or until firm. Or turn into mold, filling it to overflowing; cover with waxed paper, press cover tightly down over paper, and pack in equal parts ice and

(Continued top next column)



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TRY IT TODAY AND BE CONVINCED.

* LISTEN TO "Beyond Reasonable Doubt" every Monday, Wednesday, Friday. See local paper for station and time.



Admiration Coffee

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Let stand 3 to 4 hours, or until firm. Makes about 1 1/2 pint mousse.

Christmas Relish
6 cloves
1 pint water
1 package lemon flavored gelatin
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup vinegar from sweet pickles
12 maraschino cherries, sliced
6 sweet pickles, sliced
Boil cloves in water 3 minutes. Remove cloves. Dissolve gelatin in 1/4 cup of this hot liquid. Add salt and vinegar. Chill. When slightly thickened, fold in cherries and pickles. Turn into half-size individual molds. (Chill until firm.) Unmold. Serve with fowl or ham. Makes 10 half-size molds.

Brazil Nut Strips
4 slices bread, 1 inch thick
1 egg, slightly beaten
1/4 cup milk
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon sugar
1 cup finely chopped Brazil nuts
Remove crusts from bread and cut in 1-inch strips. Combine egg, milk, salt and sugar. Dip bread in egg mixture. Sprinkle with Brazil nuts and fry in deep fat (385° F.) until golden brown, or bake in very hot oven (450° F.) 15 to 20 minutes. Serve with maple-flavored syrup as a dessert or with afternoon tea.

Chef Sauce
6 tablespoons Wesson oil
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
Dash paprika
Beat well and then add
1/4 cup tomato juice, 1/2 teaspoon grated onion
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce.

Cherry Salad
1 package cherry flavored gelatin
1 cup hot water
1 cup cherry juice and water
1/2 cup seeded canned white cherries, cut in quarters
1/2 cup diced canned pineapple
Dissolve gelatin in hot water. Add cherry juice and water. Chill. When slightly thickened, fold in fruit. Turn into mold. Chill until firm. Unmold on crisp lettuce. Garnish with mayonnaise. Serves 6.

Appetite Lifters
There are endless ways to serve

HAPPINESS IN WORK

Work should be man's chief joy. Each must have his own and the test of its belonging is his happiness in it. The happy worker knows the thrill of creative power that turns the grilling job into a labor of love. It is then that work becomes what it was meant to be, our way of spiritual release.

Every man and every woman must have his share of the world's work and must himself and herself responsible for its just completion. Each must earn his way by daily toil and each must gain his just reward. So shall the nation prosper and progress.

We as a people should test against ourselves whether in high or low we must unite against the American practices whether endorsed by our rulers, our labor and political leaders or our plain citizens.

All workers pray that the quality of independence, our forefathers breathed into the spirit of this nation shall live on in our labors and be sweetened and strengthened by brotherly kindness into true devotion to American ideals.—Angelo Patri in Youth Today.

ONE OF BIGGEST JEWELS

A 155-pound topaz, one of the biggest jewels in the world, has been added to the collection of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. The topaz might aptly be called the "chameleon gem." French jeweler, nearly two centuries ago, discovered that yellow Brazilian topaz, when heated, changes to pink. Consequently, practically all topaz worn as jewelry had been disguised by that method.

SPONGE EPIDEMIC

The mysterious epidemic which struck the Bahama sponge beds, and threatened to wipe out the entire industry in the islands, has halted. Although the mortality rate of the tiny animals (sponges are animals) was between 70 and 95 per cent, it is much less now. Sponges have been widely used since the ancient Greeks, but not as an aid in cleaning. Their soldiers utilized them as padding in helmets and armor.

LITTLE JULIUS SNEEZER



HEDGEHOG AT TEXAS INSTITUTE

