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MERRY CHRISTMAS



And
There
Were in
the same
country
shepherds
abiding in the
field keeping watch
over their flock by
night, and lo, the angel of
the Lord came upon them
and the glory of the Lord
shone round about them and they
were sore afraid. And the angel
said unto them, "Fear Not: For
behold I bring you good tidings of
great joy which shall be to all people
For unto you is born this day in the city
of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall
find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying
in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel
a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and
saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,
Good will toward men." And it came to pass, as the angels
were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said
one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and
see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath
made known unto us." And they came with haste and found
Mary, and
Joseph
and the
Babe
lying in a
manger.
And
when
they
had
seen it
they
made
known
abroad

the saying which was told them concerning this
child and all they that heard wondered at
those things which were told them by the
shepherds. But Mary kept all these things
and pondered them in her heart. And the
shepherds returned, glorifying and praising
God for all the things that they had heard
and seen, as it was told unto them.

Year-Long Spirit of Christmas Is World's Paramount Requirement

By JAMES THRASHER

"Peace on earth, good will to men?" What a laugh! We've
heard people express themselves to that effect. They may be the
synics who tell you that Christmas is just a tremendous commercial
promotion by manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers to
snag off the sentimentalists' dollars. They may be the people who,
weary of the seemingly endless drizzle of depressing headlines describing
violent words and violent clashes between man and man. These
people, with, perhaps excusable bitterness, will tell you that "Peace
on earth, good will to men," never did exist, does not now exist and
never will exist.

But they are wrong. And happily, they are in the minority. For
there truly is a Christmas spirit. You could almost feel it during
the weeks just before Christmas, when, as the holiday drew closer,
people seemed to become nicer. They were more tolerant of each
other. They didn't push and shove in the stores, even though
overcrowded aisles put a strain on patience. There were understanding
smiles where ordinarily there would be frowns of annoyance.

Yes, there certainly is a spirit of good will abroad. And it affects
people of all kinds and creeds rather than those to whom
Christmas has a special religious significance. Today you find thousands
of people partaking of Christmas—the good will part, the making
other people happy part—who, a few generations ago would not have
done so. Today, in the United States, Christmas is celebrated by the vast majority
of us because most of us, no matter what our faith, enjoy the
feeling of goodness and inner peace engendered by the season.

The tragedy of it all is that this
"era of good feeling" is so fleeting. After Christmas, the gay
trees come down, the songs are stilled. We tend to revert to our
year-long habits of self-centered thinking and forget about the
other fellow—at whom we smiled so warmly during Christmas
week.

Perhaps some day the Christmas
spirit will last the year around. That's a large, large order.
But we can reflect that, at least in this country, there is
wider diffusion of the Christmas spirit today than there used to
be. Maybe it WILL spread to the rest of the world. It certainly
would make the world a much nicer place.

OUT OUR WAY



Scrap from the MENDING BASKET

By Viannett S. Martin

May Christmas and the New Year bring to you your heart's desire!

May there be on the Christmas Tree toys, books and pretty things to wear for every child, and may each child know the joy of sharing to further increase Christmas happiness.

For the grownups may there be tucked in the glittering beauty of the brightly lighted Tree Gifts invisible except to the ones whose name are written upon them. For the one weary and harassed by Christmas activity, present-choosing, wrapping and so on, together with all the usual household routine of cleaning and baking and all the other things that make up the housewife's day, may there be the Gift of a buoyant Happiness: a few moments for quiet reflection in order that the message of the Christmas Star may have access to the heart and refresh it.

For the ones upon whom the weight of years may be pressing too heavily, may there be easing with the Gift of true Security in the renewal of childlike confidence in the goodness of God, a letting go of the years that have passed as gently as the tree loses its leaves in preparing for the next, a looking forward without fear, and a tolerant amused interest in what is going on around them.

Dismembered Body Of Woman Found in River

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Dec. 24

(AP)—The headless, legless torso of a young woman was found in the American River north of Sacramento Wednesday—the second such slaying in this area this year.

Deputy Coroner Jack Lavelle said the only clue which might establish her identity was a costume jewelry bracelet on her right wrist. He estimated her age at about 20.

27 Die When Spanish Transport Plane Crashes

TARRAGONA, Spain, Dec. 24

(AP)—Twenty-seven persons were killed yesterday when a transport of the Iberian Airlines crashed into a mountain 40 miles west of this Mediterranean coastal city.

There were no survivors. Three women and four children were among the dead.

and the independence they so long have sought.

As one rises in his place to cheer, this chilling thought occurs: SUPPOSE THAT TOMORROW BIG RUSSIA JUMPED ON LITTLE EIRE.

WOULD the Irish (among the world's most lovable people) then be glad that they stand now on their own feet, beholden to nobody, accepting help from nobody—free to fight for their own liberty without accepting assistance from anyone?

Or would they secretly wish that Britain was still bound to come to their aid in a pinch? There are so many strange situations in this cock-eyed world. There are so many times when right and justice alone are unable to prevail against superior might.

There are the Indonesians. Suppose they fight themselves free from Dutch overlordship and then fall into the lap of Russian Communism.

By J. R. Williams

Wildlife Feeding Program Agreed On At Baker Meeting

BAKER, Ore., Dec. 24.—(AP)—An immediate wholesale deer, elk and game bird feeding program commitment for the Baker County area was made by the State Game Commission here Wednesday night in a mass meeting attended by over 300 Eastern Oregon sportsmen and farmers and members of the State Game Commission. The action will be taken to avert wholesale starvation and further elk depredations.

The meeting served to clear the air between Baker County farmers and sportsmen and between those groups and the Game Commission. The farmers' attitude was one of willingness to cooperate in the emergency plan.

C. A. Lockwood, Game Commission supervisor, said new, experimental methods would be attempted in the Baker County area, including use of scare bombs and herding. The emergency program will include fencing of haystacks, purchase of feed for pheasant, deer and elk, the feeding of the game animals in designated areas well removed from haystacks, use of scare bombs, and the herding plan.

Lockwood pointed out that these were emergency measures to meet a definite crisis and not a long range program. Heavy depredations by elk were reported by farmers attending the meeting, who said they were "definitely through" feeding elk.

Santa and Reindeer Zooming From North to American Destination

By HAL BOYLE

NORTH POLE, Dec. 24.—(AP)—He's off! The jolly old saint and his famous reindeer are zooming through the Arctic skies right now, heading for the American border. He'll reach it tonight.

The northern lights switched on to a clear steady green—the "go ahead" signal. And the Royal Canadian mounted police sent Santa this message:

"We are clearing all air lanes in your path, old boy. There is no speed limit for you tonight. The sky is yours. Go as fast as you like. Good luck!"

And Santa Claus needed that wide, clear road in the sky. For his big red sled was placed so full of gifts it overflowed. It looked like a hayrick zooming through the crisp air.

"Oh, dear, oh, dear," worried Santa, just before the takeoff. "I do hope none of these presents fall out and bean some poor innocent rabbit down below. I believe this must be the heaviest load I've had in 20 years."

"What is he fretting about?" whispered Donner to Vixen. He's only riding in that sled. We have to pull it."

Vixen laughed so hard the bells on her harness tinkled in merry music. And all the other reindeer laughed, too.

As Santa Claus climbed up into the seat of the sled, puffing a little because he has gained some weight this winter, three black and white penguins waddled waddled across the snow in front of the reindeer.

"Here, here, get out of the way, please," said Santa Claus importantly. Then he said, surprised: "Why, what are you penguins doing up at the North Pole anyway? You're supposed to be at the South Pole."

"We're on a vacation," said one of the penguins. "We're looking for Florida. Have you seen it anywhere?"

"Climb aboard, climb aboard," boomed Santa. "I'll drop you off there. But I must say this is the first time I ever picked up three hitchhikers wearing tuxedos."

No Destination Just then Mrs. Santa Claus came running out waving a long piece of paper.

"You almost forgot your list of good children," she said.

"Never mind," said Santa. "I don't need it. This year I am going to give a present to every little boy and girl, good or bad. The bad ones will feel sorry then, because they know they don't deserve a nice present. It'll make 'em try harder to be good next year."

"That isn't according to Hoyle," said Mrs. Claus, who likes to play bridge. "But it does make sense, you old sofie."

Santa stood up to crack his whip in the air—the signal to be off. But then he heard a small voice crying:

"Wait, please wait."

It was Cluny, Santa's favorite little elf. The other elves gossiped about Cluny and said she was clumsy at making toys. But Santa knew it was only because she was so young. He liked her because she had a good heart.

"Here," said the tiny elf, holding up a small shiny figure.

"What's this? What's this?" grumbled Santa. "You're too late. My pack is already loaded."

"It is only my present to the world," said Cluny. "I made it at night in my room—all by myself."

Greatest Gift of All Santa took the little figure from her hands. It was a beautiful angel with butterfly wings and a robe of purest white. In her hand the angel held a small magic wand.

"It is the Angel of Peace," explained Cluny.

"Why, Cluny!" said Santa. "This is better than all the other gifts put together. I'll see that

Garden Valley Scouts Hold Christmas Party

Eleven boys of the Garden Valley Boy Scout troop held its annual Christmas exchange party at the school house Wednesday evening.

Those present for the affair included Henry Booth, John Michel, Ted Hess, Jim Ewens, John and Jim Webber, Jerry Summer, Danny Esberg, Gail Bailey, Gil

ford Evans and Ray Young. Troop counsellors at the party were: Graham Ewens, J. V. Long, Cyril Sumner, E. J. Webber, Hugh Ritchie, Harold Raikes, Burt Young, Scoutmaster A. Giroux, and assistants Hyle Hughes and Jerry Claypool. It was suggested that any scouts able to attend the winter camp at Wolf Creek on Little River contact Rolfe Quam, scout executive for the Douglas District, or the scoutmaster.



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More Funds to Be Asked for Oregon Forestry Program

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 24.—(AP)—The State Forestry Department wants to increase its program to grow more trees and to save more of the present trees.

State Forester N. S. Rogers said in his biennial report to the legislature yesterday that his department would ask for \$1,055,000 during the next two-year budget period, or an increase of \$225,000 over the current biennium.

Rogers recommended expansion of the programs of his department's nursery, and of the farm forestry program.

He wants penalties provided for violating the conservation act, under which loggers must maintain good logging practices.

Rogers also asked more authority to get more land suitable for replanting, including logged-off and burned-over lands.

Raid Nets 25 Chinese, 4 Tons of Lottery Tickets

OAKLAND, Calif., Dec. 24

(AP)—Police announced yesterday a raid on the secret headquarters of a huge Chinese lottery ring that did a \$300,000 a year business in six Bay Area counties.

Officers arrested 26 Chinese, and confiscated four tons of unmarked lottery tickets.

Wishing all my
friends and clients
much joy at this
happy season

SUN LIFE OF CANADA DON FORBES



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Season's
Greetings

May the season of joy and happiness lead to
a new year bright with the hope of peace
and good will among men of all nations.

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"We, the students and faculty of the
Grants Pass High School, wish to express
our appreciation for the many
messages of sympathy which we received
following our recent tragedy."