

Christmas?

As father is out selecting and chopping down the tree, mother and the children are busy at home making ornaments and stringing popcorn to decorate the tree.

As father is working overtime to pay off Christmas bills he hasn't even seen yet, mother rushes down to the store, buys an aluminum tree and some boxed ornaments.

On Christmas Day a great feeling of warmth and closeness is felt among family members as they gather around the table for their annual Christmas dinner.

On Christmas Day a great hustle is felt by all as mother pops the TV dinners in the oven and rushes off to her bridge club, and father and the children hurry to their different parties and gatherings.

Has Christmas really changed that much or is it merely the times which force these revisions on us?

Have people really changed their attitudes so much that we aren't even enjoying the same holiday our ancestors did?

Christmas has definitely become commercialized. Long before Thanksgiving is over, the sights and sounds of Christmas can be seen and heard. Is this the cause of the lack of enthusiasm and closeness when Christmas truly draws near?

Perhaps this is the reason why the number and prices of gifts is becoming increasingly more important. It's not what you get, it's how much or how expensive

each one of your gifts is.

In days long gone it was an honor to receive a home-made gift—a part of the person who gave it. How many people today would like a box of homemade fudge better than new sporting equipment?

In some countries it was even a bad omen to give too many or too expensive gifts, because it symbolized certain poverty and bad luck for the following year. But it didn't matter, because Christmas meant love and joy—not gifts!

Some of the changes our generation has made in the Christmas season are good. (Electric lights are certainly safer than candles on Christmas trees.) But the loss of the feeling of warmth is a definite drawback.

Christmas must change with the times, but whereas some of the old traditions and feelings of warmth remain, some of the most meaningful are gone.

Perhaps it is not necessarily the store-bought ornaments that make Christmas commercial and artificial; but instead the fault lies in the hearts and minds of many who celebrate the holiday.

Changing the feelings and attitudes of people is not always easy. But to make this Christmas a truly important and joyous one, stay home and enjoy not only the outside, commercial beauty of the holiday; but also the beauty to be found in togetherness and appreciation of one's family.

'Seventeen' honors Nancy O'Brien as Jan. guest model

by Steph Daly

How would you like to have the thrilling experience of being a featured model in the January issue of Seventeen? Nancy O'Brien, '66 graduate, had this honor on being selected "The Outstanding Girl of the West Coast."

In the process of choosing the representatives, Nancy was selected because of her abilities in art and on research based on publicity given her in published newspaper articles.

As related by Nancy, her exciting venture began when she took off in a jet which landed at a large New York airport where she felt very lost among the large crowds of unknown people. Finally she was found by her chaperone, and the fun began.

No activities were scheduled the first night because she was tired from the trip, but she started off the first day with a grueling, hectic schedule.

The day's activities started with a stop at the beauty parlor, which is dedicated to top models. Nancy received a haircut in front of a full-length mirror, because the head is held differently when standing rather than sitting. The haircut was priced at \$50.

Next stop was the make-up man. After entering the studio, Nancy's face was transformed so it would have a very flat appearance. Nancy learned that the face must look flat because the shadows shown in pictures are not natural, but taken from studio lights. Lipstick was applied, but very little eye-liner or eye-shadow. It took the make-up man one hour to apply the makeup, and he received \$150.

Next came the photographer's studio where Nancy had the pictures taken that will be seen in the January issue of Seventeen. In the first picture Nancy will be seen modeling a bathing suit and cover-up, with a hole cut out at the stomach. On her stomach is a rose tattoo, to correspond with the pattern of the cover-up.

Early the next day, Nancy went through the same routine, only this time modeling a swim suit. In this picture Nancy is posed on a diving board which is just a piece of wood, and appears to look as though she is splashing in the water. A butterfly tattoo is worn on her cheek, which she painted herself, again repeating the material print in the swim suit.

Nancy and her 20-year-old chaperone attended a Broadway hit play, "Hallelujah Baby," starring Leslie Uggams. It surprised Nancy to find the people attending the play dressed so casually.

Seventeen other girls from throughout the United States joined Nancy in New York, each one recognized for a special talent or ability. Among these girls were National Merit Scholarship winners, a sailing instructor and others.

Nancy is now attending the University of Washington and majoring in graphic design. "It was truly a very wonderful experience and a perfectly thrilling adventure," said Nancy, "and I enjoyed every single second of it. This is something I shall never ever forget."

Santa Claus interviewed

Santa Claus tells Christmas eve plans

by Marlene Feves and Debbie Rovech

While visions of sugarplums are dancing in the heads of Grant students on the night of December 24th, Santa Claus will be flying over the Grant district on his traditional Christmas Eve ride. Traveling in a 1967, nine-deer powered sleigh, Santa will be delivering many of the much-asked-for toys to the anxious student body.

Mr. Claus explained that "Baby Crawl Along," "Johnny Eagle," "G.I. Joe," and "Lucky Lockett Kid-dle Dolls" are very popular with the freshmen and sophomores this year. "Johnny Astro" and "Tubsy Dolls," much more sophisticated, are favorites among the upperclassmen! Santa will be plopping down the chimneys of almost all the good students' houses and may even stop at a few of the bad ones this year.

Preparing for Christmas at the North Pole is always hectic for the Clauses and their helpers. Rudolf and his fellow aviators begin conditioning early in November for their long, annual, roof-top journey. Mrs. S. Claus keeps busy ironing her husband's classic suit, polishing Rudolf's nose, and designing clothes for "Tubsy Dolls." The Elves scramble to sort out last-minute mail and fill orders, making certain that Grant students get the gifts they requested.

According to Mr. Claus, preparing for Christmas is a lot of work and takes all year, but knowing the happiness it will bring makes it all worth while.

Santa, who brings so much joy to so many, and puts smiles on faces of all ages, asks very little for himself for Christmas. "Just give me peace on earth and I'll be happy," he commented.

So, if you've been a good little Grantonian, finished your homework, been a joy to your parents and teachers, and think you hear strange noises on the roof on Christmas Eve, rest assured; it's only Santa Claus bringing you a very merry Christmas!



DEBBIE ROVECH, left and Marlene Feves tell Santa their wishes for a merry Christmas.



DEBBIE AND MARLENE ask Santa a few last questions before he and his helper ride off in Santa's reindeer-powered sled.

Three Mexican boys visit

'Adventure, fun' call boys from Mexico

From south of the border down Mexico way came three visitors—Francisco Landero, Xavier Hernandez and Eduardo Alamo from Puebla, Mexico.

"We came here for adventure and fun," stated Francisco, who was a student here during his senior year of high school for two months in 1964.

The threesome traveled from Puebla, a city of 500,000 people, 85 miles south of Mexico City, to Portland in 78 hours.

Christa and Laurie Collier are hostesses while the boys are here. Eduardo and Xavier are staying in the Colliers' home the duration of their visit.

Xavier and Francisco attend the University of Puebla in Puebla, where they are both juniors. Classes are held six

days a week, although the Saturday classes are conducted in the morning only.

Eduardo, who is 18, is living with his family on a chicken farm where they are raising some 5,000 baby chicks.

The boys have been attending Spanish classes of John Seymour and Julian Amaya, where the students have carried on conversations and asked questions of them.

Sports is the main interest of Xavier, who was very interested in seeing the gym and watching a basketball game.

Weather in Puebla is very pleasant the year around, so Portland's coldness was a bit of a shock for these warm-blooded Mexicans. "In Portland the sun shines and yet you are always so cold," commented Francisco.

Merry Christmas from the Grantonian Staff

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Co-editors Jan Kelley and Cecile O'Rourke
Staff Members June Ammon, Steph Daly, Cynthia Froom, Jan Kelley, Marilyn Leonard, Julie Ferry, Lisa Rose, Diane Sweet, Bruce Fishback, Karen Zidell, Debby Liesch.

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Cover Art by Leslie Frey

