



Chapter I

Steve and Nancy were in their room on the second floor of the white house on Wayne Drive, putting out paper chains to put on the Christmas tree.

The room was nice and warm but Jack Frost was busy outside painting pictures in ice on the windows and whispering in the chilly wind to anyone who would listen that Christmas was near.

Nancy was cutting strips of gaily-colored paper and Steve was bending the strips into circles and looping them through one another to form a chain. An immense bowl of paste sat on the table in front of them.

"You're lucky," Nancy said, "you already have one of your Christmas presents."

"I'll say I am," Steve replied, reaching for his pocket. He drew forth a huge gold watch that ticked so loudly, it could be heard clear across the room.

"Isn't it a beauty?" Steve said, holding it fondly and rubbing its shiny case.

Steve had been promised this watch for two years. It had belonged to his grandfather many years ago. It was too big for his watch pocket, but that didn't bother Steve at all.

Only this morning Steve's mother had taken him down the street to where old Mr. Yodel, the Swiss watchmaker, had a little shop in his basement where he did watch repairs.

Old Workman Mr. Yodel was bent and stooped now from so many years bending over the watchmaker's bench, but his hand was steady and with his little glasses perched on the end of his nose he could see even the tiniest wheel and bearing at work in a watch. Steve and Nancy used to visit Mr. Yodel whenever they could to hear the stories of his youth in Switzerland.

They would watch his big, old pipe bobbing up and down on his chin as he talked while he worked. It was an immense pipe with a curved stem and a white bowl. Nancy said she couldn't stand the smell of it, but she came to listen to the stories anyway.

Highly Shined Mr. Yodel had cleaned Steve's watch and shined it to a high polish. Steve's mother had said that as long as Steve knew he was going to get it for Christmas anyway, he might as well have it now.

Steve was admiring his watch and Nancy was wishing her grandmother had left her one when the quiet of the room was suddenly shattered — "Ker-r-splat."

Something fell in the bowl of paste, splattering it all over the table.

"Did you drop your watch in the paste?" Nancy asked.

"No," said Steve, looking into the bowl.

Suddenly the paste began to move and slowly an arm crawled out of the bowl, followed by another arm and a sputtering sound. "Help," cried a little voice, "I've fallen in!"

The little figure of a man started to crawl out of the paste bowl, but he kept slipping on the sides of the dish in the gooey paste.

Wheat Notes Fair Gains

CHICAGO (U) — Wheat ended with fair-sized gains on the Board of Trade Monday after a slow, steady climb throughout the session.

Rye moved ahead with wheat. In other grains quite a bit of irregularity prevailed.

Wheat closed 3-1/4 higher, corn 1/4 lower to 1/2 higher, oats 1/4 lower to 1/2 higher, rye 1/4-1/2 higher, soybeans 1/4-1/2 higher and land 12 to 20 cents a hundred pounds higher.

Potential export business provided the main stimulus in wheat. Greece is expected to take three million bushels of hard wheat and Egypt six million bushels of hard and soft wheat this week. West Germany and Brazil also may be in the market.

The administration was said to be considering favorably a request by church groups that farm surpluses be made available to them for relief distribution abroad. It was said 10 million bushels of wheat will be released from government stocks for this purpose.

Stock Market Prices Down

NEW YORK (U) — Selling persisted in the stock market Monday and mounted in intensity just before the final bell to push prices down all around.

The Associated Press average of 80 stocks declined \$1.40 to \$179.90. That is not too far under the record high of \$181.50 set Sept. 23 and again a week ago.

The industrial component of the average lost \$2.40, rails were off 70 cents, and utilities were off 30 cents.

Out of the 1,218 individual issues traded, 317 advanced and 666 declined with 28 new highs and 17 new lows for the year.

Volume amounted to 2,510,000 shares. There were 2,600,000 shares traded in Friday's slightly lower market.

"What is that?" Steve and Nancy said at once.

Tinker looked around the room to see that no one was looking and then whispered, "All the toy-makers are going to make a Christmas present for Santa Claus."

Tomorrow: A Sudden Interruption.

Salem Market Quotations

BUTTERFAT Premium No. 1 38.00 Retail 36.00 BUTTER Wholesale 46.00 Retail 44.00 EGGS (Buying) (As of late yesterday) (Wholesale prices range from 6 to 10 cents above buying price)

Large AA 54.00 Large A 52.00 Medium AA 50.00 Medium A 48.00 Small 46.00

POULTRY Colored Hens 22.00 Leghorn Hens 20.00 Colored Frys 21.00 Colored Roosters 20.00 Old Roosters 19.00

Investment Trusts (Zika, Smith & Co., Inc.)

Stocks and Bonds (Compiled by The Associated Press)

BOND AVERAGES

Net change - D-1 A-1 D-2 U-1

Stock Averages

Net change - D-1 A-1 D-2 U-1

DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1. Declines (abbr.)
2. Old card game (Sp.)
3. Clear
4. A cell having locomotion (Biol.)
5. God of war (Gr.)
6. Wander
7. Famous French bacteriologist
8. Lustrous
9. To dip lightly into water
10. Music note
11. First man (Bib.)
12. A maxim
13. Extra
14. Piece of skeleton
15. Hawaiian bird
16. Sweet potato
17. Force
18. Resort
19. Federated republic of Yugoslavia
20. A dog
21. Jargon
22. Of an area
23. Full of
24. Book of maps
25. DOWN
1. A lab
2. Subtle emanation
3. Frozen deer skin
4. Rolls

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50

New York Stock Quotations

Compiled by The Associated Press

Admiral Corporation 112 3/4
Allied Chemical 113 1/2
Allis Chalmers 66
Aluminum Co. America 80
American Airlines 24 1/2
American Motors 8 3/4
American Tel. & Tel. 178 1/2
American Tobacco 82 1/2
Anaconda Copper 70 3/4
Atchafalpa Railroad 156
Bethlehem Steel 165 3/4
Boeing Airplane Co. 72 1/2

PORTLAND (U) — Butterfat — Tentative, subject to immediate change—Premium quality, delivered in Portland 58-61 lb; first quality 55-58; second quality 50-53.

Butter—Wholesale, f.o.b. bulk cubes to wholesalers—Grade AA, 93 score, 57 1/2; 92 score, 56 1/2; 91 score, 55 1/2; C grade, 89 score, 53.

Cheese—To wholesalers—Oregon singles, 38 1/2-41 lb; Oregon 5-lb loaf, 41-44.

Eggs—To wholesalers—Candled f.o.b. Portland, A large, 58 1/2-60 1/2; A medium, 56 1/2-57 1/2; A small, 47 1/2-49 1/2.

Eggs—To retailers—Grade AA, large, 62-64; A large, 60-62; A medium, 58-60; A small, 48-50. Cartons, 13 cents additional.

Live poultry—No. 1 quality, f.o.b. Portland—Fryers, 24 lbs, 22; at farm, 21; roasters, 24, f.o.b. Portland; light hens, 16-17; heavy hens, 20-22; old roosters, 11-14.

Turkeys—To producers for A grade young hens, f.o.b. farm N.Y., dressed, 35; A tops, 29; A hens, eviscerated, 41 1/2; eviscerated toms, 31 1/2; fryer turkeys, light-weight, 6-10 lbs, 34.

Rabbits—Average to growers—Live white, 3 1/2-4 1/2 lbs, 23-26, 5-6 lbs, 18-21; old does, 10-14, few higher. Fresh dressed fryers to retailers, 38-41; cut up, 42-45.

Wholesale Dressed Meats

Beef—Cows, utility, 20-23 lb; canners and cutters, 16-17; Veal—Top quality, lightweight, 26-30; rough heavies, 17-20; Hogs—Best light blockers, 20-21; lean light sows, 17-18; Lambs—Good springers, 32-34; yearlings, 24-26.

Mutton—Lightweight ewes and wethers, 10-12; rough heavies 7-9.

Classified Advertising

300 Personal
310 Meeting Notice
312 Lost and Found
316 Personal

PAID READINGS \$1.00
Open 10-11 a.m. 11-12 p.m.
1 p.m.-1:30 p.m. 1:30-2 p.m.
2 p.m.-2:30 p.m. 2:30-3 p.m.
3 p.m.-3:30 p.m. 3:30-4 p.m.
4 p.m.-4:30 p.m. 4:30-5 p.m.
5 p.m.-5:30 p.m. 5:30-6 p.m.
6 p.m.-6:30 p.m. 6:30-7 p.m.
7 p.m.-7:30 p.m. 7:30-8 p.m.
8 p.m.-8:30 p.m. 8:30-9 p.m.
9 p.m.-9:30 p.m. 9:30-10 p.m.
10 p.m.-10:30 p.m. 10:30-11 p.m.
11 p.m.-11:30 p.m. 11:30-12 p.m.

NEED HELP to control your weight? WEYBITE, scientifically proven, medically approved, inexpensive. Ph. 3-5731. Write, call 3-5731.

ALCOHOLICS Anonymous, 308 S. Commercial, 2-2106 or 3-0442.

BILLS? Too many bills? We'll consolidate them for you, no matter what you owe or earn. No co-signers or security needed. Just one easy payment each month and we pay all your bills.

CREDIT CONSULTANTS
Dial Salem 3-5344

VACANCIES
In Dallas Modern Rest Home
Rates per mo. ambulatory \$80.00
patients \$135.00. Good food, nurses care 24 hrs. day. Ph. MA 313-3201.
800 Ellendale Ave., Dallas, Oregon.
ALCOHOLICS Anonymous group No. 1, 308 S. Commercial, 3-5337.

FOR QUICK RESULTS
PH. 4-6811

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450 RENTALS
460 TRAVEL
470 AUTOMOTIVE
480 MOTORCYCLES
490 MISCELLANEOUS

CHICAGO GRAIN
WHEAT
December 2.08 1/2
January 2.08 1/2
February 2.08 1/2
March 2.08 1/2
April 2.08 1/2
May 2.08 1/2
June 2.08 1/2
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Santa Claus Meets Britain Royal Youths

LONDON (U) — Santa Claus met a real prince and princess Monday. The royal callers were Prince Charles and Princess Anne, children of Queen Elizabeth II.

They conferred with Santa in the toy department of a big London store (Harrods). Princess Anne was delighted by it all. But a usually qualified source said Prince Charles approached the serious problem of Santa Claus with a degree of skepticism commensurate with his mature age of 7. His sister is going on 5.

After several crowded minutes of hand shaking and discussions about Christmas stockings the two royal visitors turned to other attractions in the toy fair. Santa kept a diplomatic silence. There were no sources close to him for comment on the outcome of the talks.

Meanwhile, the young heir to the English throne and his sister Anne took up solidly entrenched posts in front of a band of five mechanical chimpanzee musicians and difficulty developed in pulling them from their enchantment.

Prince Charles finally wandered over to the model railway lines and also inspected yachts. Their masts caused him to crane his neck. A few moments later the royal shopper dug into his purse and paid out 5 shillings and 11 pence (83 cents) for a lively clockwork penguin.

His little sister had found herself in front of building and modeling sets. Charles joined her and opened his purses again for modeling set. He placed his two purchases in a green and white shopping bag.

Next came a visit to a pet store, where parrots and parakeets squawked and a giant-billed toucan answered them, apparently oblivious to their royal visitors. Anne clapped her hands to her ears at the screeching. After an hour the two children clambered into the royal car—Charles 10 minutes after Anne.

Grand Jury Frees Widow In Murder

KINGSVILLE, Tex. (U) — A Kleberg County grand jury Monday freed Mrs. Sunny Canales Worden of charges of murdering her husband, Don Worden, on lonely Padre Island last October.

The grand jury told Dist. Judge Paul Martinez that there "were not sufficient facts to support a charge of murder against anyone under the laws of the state of Texas."

Mrs. Worden said that "I have been fairly dealt with and vindicated. I am deeply grateful." Worden's body was found Oct. 29 in a shallow sandy grave on the island just off the Texas Coast. Several days later Mrs. Worden told Texas rangers she killed him after he had dug a grave and told her he was going to force her to kill her 5-year-old daughter and herself.

Reds Defeated In Ceylonese Vote Returns

COLOMBO, Ceylon (U) — The Communist party has received its most severe defeat in a Ceylonese election to date.

In the South Ceylon Matara city council, regarded as the party's strongest area, 9 of the 10 Communist candidates were defeated yesterday. In the last council the party held six seats, with fellow travelers representing three of the remaining four wards.

Observers attributed the party's setback to its unpopular policy on an official language for Ceylon. The Communists want both Sinhalese and Tamil to be given equal status when English is replaced. But the Sinhalese, who form the majority, insist their language must be the only one.

Transatlantic Phone Call Yields Low Bid

LONDON (U) — Louis Harrow picked up a telephone in Los Angeles Monday and entered the bidding in a London auction on an album of British Commonwealth stamps. The call came through when bidding was at 330 pounds (924).

Harrow bought the set for 100 pounds (\$1,004).

Sultry Lass Wants to End 'Girlie' Feud

ROME (U) — Sultry Sophia Loren wants to end her word feud with gorgeous Gina Lollobrigida before it bursts out into open warfare.

Returning to a tumultuous welcome after a trip to Scandinavia, Sophia said Sunday night that she and Gina should meet to get the whole thing off their chests.

"I've been the victim of an unjust publicity campaign," said the Neapolitan-born pinup favorite. "I'd like to know who's organized it so well. Nothing they say is true."

She was referring to reports that she had made slighting remarks about Gina during her visit to Scandinavia.

"Our relations may not be very cordial, but I assure you that there's none of this hatred that people have been talking about, at least on my side," she declared.

"Gina and I are made for different roles."

Sophia added that she was "most ready to meet Gina where and when she wishes to clear up this false and baseless argument, based on anatomy. That doesn't include the heart, and even an actress has a heart. If this goes on it could hurt us both."

Portland Livestock

PORTLAND (U) — Cattle salable 1,750; market uneven; steers, heifers rather slow, steady 50 higher with short-fed steers up least; cows active, generally 50 higher than late last week; load average choice around 970 lb fed steers 20.85, part load good with some choice grades 19.00; bulk utility dairy type steers 10.00; 11.50; two loads good-choice 850 lb fed heifers 17.00; few loads good heifers 15.00-16.50; commercial grades 14.00-15.00; light utility down to 9.00; canner and cutter cows mostly 6.50-8.00, several loads with few head to 8.50; shells downward to 4.00; utility cows mostly 9.00-11.00; commercial grades 11.50-12.00 with load young 921 lb cows at 13.50 lightly sorted at 12.00; utility-commercial bulls mostly 12.00-13.00; light cutters down to 10.00.

Calves salable 200; market several lots good-choice above 350 lb calves 15.50-16.50; choice stock steer calves up to 17.00; cut utility calves, vealers