

Personal Touch



Instead of sending her presents through the mails, this young lady prefers to deliver them herself. It adds a personal touch that is greatly appreciated by friends on Christmas day.

First Christmas Seals Originated in Denmark To Fight Tuberculosis

That harbinger of the holiday season, the cheerful Christmas Seal, has recently made its appearance as the National Tuberculosis association opened its annual drive for funds to continue work in the prevention and cure of this dread disease.

The idea of the sale of seals to aid the fight against tuberculosis originated in Denmark in 1903. The following year the first seals were sold. The idea gained almost immediate popularity and soon spread to neighboring countries.

Christmas seals appeared in the United States in 1907 when Miss Emily P. Bissel of the Wilmington, Del., Red Cross chapter designed a seal that was sold locally. The campaign was so successful that the next year the National Red Cross adopted the idea and conducted a nation-wide campaign. From then until 1919 the Red Cross continued the annual Christmas Seal distribution. In their last year the returns had risen to nearly \$4,000,000.

Beginning with 1920 the National Tuberculosis association began distribution of the seals. The designs of these stamps have been the work of prominent artists who have interpreted the Christmas spirit each in his own way.

In addition to the United States approximately 40 other countries have adopted the Christmas seal for raising anti-tuberculosis funds.

Post Office Auctions Gifts 'Lost' in Mails

Uncle Sam will soon make profits by selling Christmas presents sent through the mails, but he would much rather deliver them—and he would, if he knew where they were supposed to go.

American people are so rich and in such a hurry that they don't even take the pains to see that their gifts sent by mail are properly wrapped and addressed. Of course, all are not careless about it, but the postmen do have a hard time during the holidays.

Extra mail clerks receive millions of dollars in wages, and a good share of this extra force is kept busy handling poorly wrapped and improperly addressed packages. Many thousands of Christmas gifts will be sold because they contain no clew concerning their sender or the intended destination. The "undressed" department of the inquiry section of the post office in large cities resembles a warehouse.

Some gifts cannot be held long, such as alligators from Florida, live chickens, turkeys, or fruits. These are quickly sold and the sale price held in a fund which is ultimately turned into the treasury. When all efforts have been exhausted, the unidentified and unclaimed packages are sold by an auctioneer.

Wrong Use

The name Kriss Kringle is sometimes erroneously used to designate Santa Claus. Kriss Kringle is a corruption of the German Christ-kindel, the Christ-child.

Mountain Beauty

Christmas in the Swiss mountains is full of scenic enchantment and poetry. Every hamlet and every village is a wondrous vision in white, with its fleckless beauty still accentuated by the sapphire blue of the sky.

Tip on Toys

To be in demand, toys should be educational, full of action, or duplicates of large articles. Most toys used through the ages fall into one of these three categories.

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

Washington, D. C. HIDDEN TREASURE

With American industries crying for war materials, the government has finally got around to seizing a giant horde of semi-manufactured war materials originally intended for the conquered countries.

Tons upon tons of steel bars, steel rods, steel sheets, ship plates, tin plate, copper wire were ordered by Poland, Czechoslovakia, Holland and Belgium, some of it three years ago. It has been in warehouses and idle freight cars ever since, despite the scarcity of raw materials and despite the fact that some industries are even closing for lack of them.

Why this horde of priceless material remained untouched for so long is a mystery. But the secret is first, government red tape and bureaucracy; second, the fact that owners of these materials, who were holding them for higher prices, did not want to sell.

The old Export Control board under Gen. Russell Maxwell, who is now devoting his abilities to the Near East, did nothing about this treasure horde. But now Henry Wallace's Economic Defense board is finally moving in.

A small haul was made earlier this year in Hoboken, N. J., of aluminum and other materials, but the coming seizures are on a far greater scale. Of one commodity alone, tin plate, there will be 100,000 cases, or 15,000 tons, taken from three areas, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore.

The total haul of all commodities will be between 20 and 25 thousand carloads, which, at an average of 50 tons to the car, means over a million tons.

The Economic Defense board will use only \$200,000 to finance the requisitioning of all this material, the value of which runs into many millions. Most of it will be seized and sold again on the same day, so the \$200,000 will be merely a revolving fund.

INTERNED ITALIANS

One of the Italian ship officers in detention at Fort Missoula, Mont., wrote his wife in Italy a letter which U. S. officials are sure will never reach her.

The letter will get to Italy, all right. Mail is still being exchanged regularly between the two countries. But authorities are certain that the officer's letter will not get by the Duce's censors, for, in hungry, battered, war-weary Italy this poignant message would not be "good propaganda."

This is the reason: "We left Philadelphia for the city of Missoula," wrote the husband. "The journey lasted three days and three nights on a train and was a real pleasure. We did not lack a thing because we traveled in a Pullman. At meal times we turned it into a dining room and, at night into a dormitory. The meals were magnificent."

"I can tell you that for me the journey was one I had dreamed of for years and then, in an extraordinary way, it came true. As I said before, this place is beautiful, all green with woods and surrounded by hills. The air is fine and healthy, my appetite very good and the food abundant and exquisite."

"We do not lack milk, butter, meat, bread, vegetables, fruit, sugar or coffee. When I am eating I always think of you, who are perhaps without food. No one can complain about the guards. They treat us with every respect and consideration."

Note: To Americans the effusive description of the food as "abundant and exquisite" is interesting, because the alien prisoners at Fort Missoula are fed straight army fare. In quality and quantity their rations are exactly the same as those of U. S. soldiers.

SCRAP IRON TO JAPAN

For years, the heaviest foreign buyer of U. S. scrap iron was Japan. Despite much public protesting, the state department permitted Nipponese militarists to import huge quantities of this vital strategic material. Now appeasement chickens are coming home to roost.

With defense production swinging into full tide, the U. S. suddenly is confronted with a serious scrap shortage. For various reasons, defense chiefs are saying nothing about the situation. But it is very acute. A number of steel makers have privately reported curtailed production schedules in the offing because of inability to obtain needed supplies of scrap.

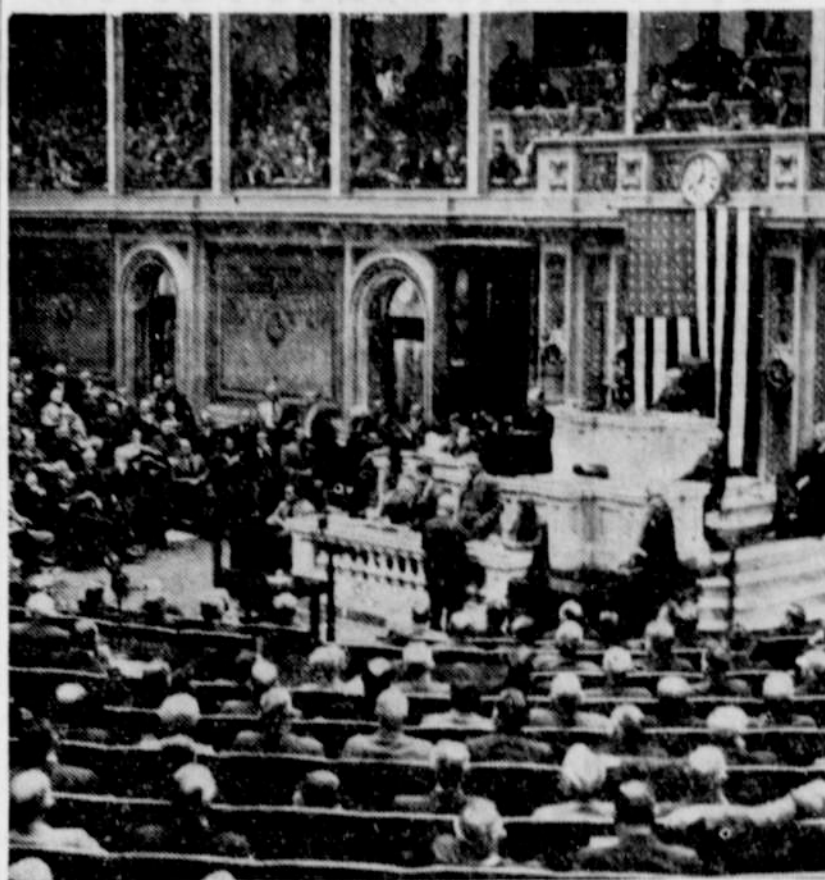
One important plant executive went so far as to describe his condition as "almost desperate."

CAPITAL CHAFF

Everyone is getting increased wages, except the poor postman. The cost of living has gone up but he can't strike against the government.

The army air corps is wind-tunnel testing a new single-engine fighter plane that will do 512 miles an hour, 100 miles faster than any other plane in existence. All the bugs have been eliminated from the plane except one—finding a pilot who can safely fly a plane at that terrific speed.

Reading President's War Message



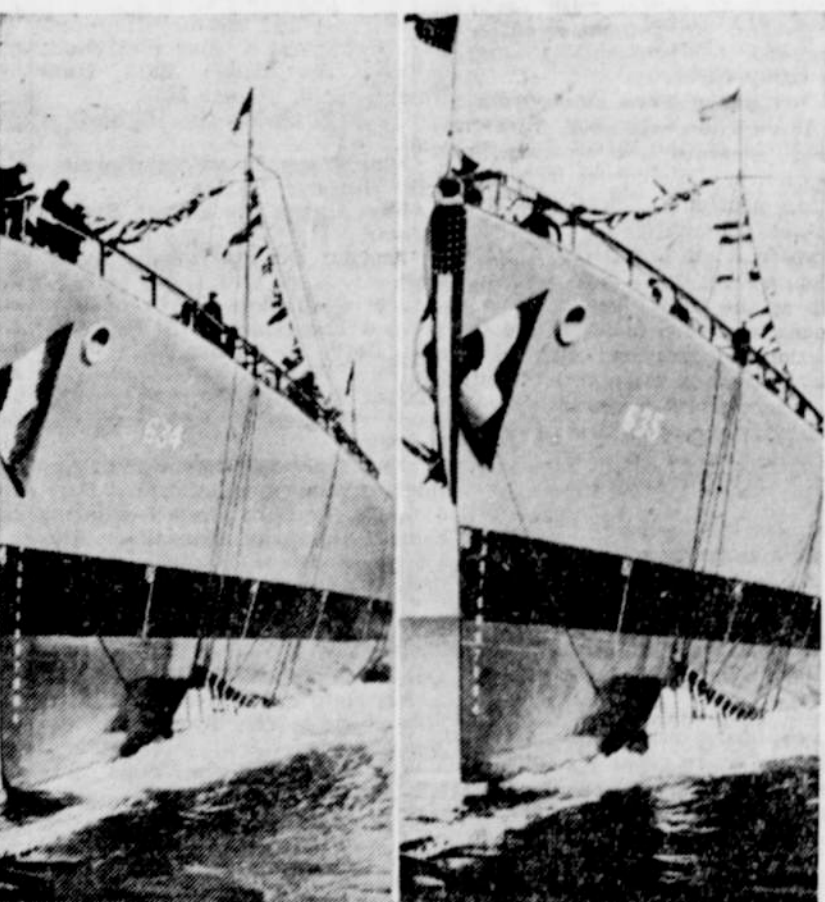
View of house of representatives in session as it voted unanimously that a state of war existed between this country and Germany and Italy. President Roosevelt sent a brief message asking congress to recognize a state of war with Germany and Italy. The message was read barely four hours after Germany and Italy announced declarations against the United States. Speaker Sam Rayburn presiding (seated at base of American flag).

Army Heads Discuss War Plans



Army heads are shown above as they studied and discussed war plans and maps in Washington. They are, L. to R.: Col. E. P. Sorenson, Material and Supply division; Lieut. Col. H. L. George, Air War Plans; Brig. Gen. C. Spaatz, Chief of Air Staff; Maj. Gen. H. H. Arnold, Air Corps Chief; Maj. H. Hansell, Air War Plans; Brig. Gen. M. Scanlon, Chief of Staff, Air Intelligence; and Lieut. Col. A. Vanaman, Secretary of Air Staff.

Uncle Sam's Newest Destroyers



Uncle Sam will now step up its stride in shipbuilding, and new records will be set. This soundphoto shows the launching of two destroyers at the Charleston, S. C., navy yards, the No. 634 U.S.S. Doran, which was named for the hero of the cable-cutting feat in the Spanish-American war, and the No. 635, U.S.S. Earle.

Checking Damage to Jap Cherry Trees



Four Japanese cherry trees, symbols of bygone friendship between the United States and Japan, were cut down by zealous patriots near the inlet bridge of the Tidal Basin early today. The trees were four of the largest that surround the basin. Photo shows a park policeman inspecting the damage done during a temporary blackout.

Defenders of Malaya



This picture shows part of a battalion of the Dogra (Indian troops) as they crossed a lake on rubber boats, near the important British base of Singapore. They are defending Malaya against the invading hordes of Japanese.

Deliver a 'Note'



Hans Thomsen, charge d'affaires of the German embassy in Washington (left) and Herbert Von Stempel of the embassy, deliver a note from their government announcing that war now exists between Germany and the United States.

In Defense of Java



One of a large fleet of U. S. Brewster Buffalo fighters used by the air force of Netherlands East Indies for the defense of Java. The Buffalo has a top speed of 350 MPH, and a range of 2,500 miles. Its armament consists of four 50-caliber machine guns.

Partial Blackout



This picture shows the U. S. capital during a partial blackout. For the first time in the history of America lights in and on the Capitol dome have been extinguished.

ASK ME ANOTHER? A General Quiz

The Questions

- 1. In British history, what is meant by the star chamber?
2. What is a menage?
3. What name is given to a poem in which the initial letters of the lines, when taken in order, form a word or words?
4. If London bridge should fall down, into what river would it land?
5. What is the plural of the word mongoose?
6. At what is a calligrapher adept?
7. One-fourth of a barrel is called what?
8. Who coached the "point-a-minute" team famous in football history?
9. When was the first star measured?
10. Which country first introduced the lifeboat?

The Answers

- 1. An ancient high court which sat without a jury.
2. A household.
3. An acrostic.
4. The Thames.
5. Mongooses.
6. Handwriting.
7. A firkin.
8. Fielding H. Yost.
9. Although the stars have been scientifically studied for hundreds of years, not one was ever measured until December 13, 1920, when the diameter of Betelgeuse was determined with the aid of a special type of interferometer at the Mount Wilson observatory in California.
10. The lifeboat was a British introduction. The first was launched at South Shields in 1789. There were many wrecks and great loss of life in the stormy waters at the entrance to the Tyne, and South Shields residents offered a prize for the design of a boat capable of riding the rough seas. The best points in the various designs submitted were combined in the first boat.

People's Will

Nothing can ruin our country if the people themselves will undertake its safety—and nothing can save it if they leave that safety in any hands other than their own.—Daniel Webster.



Doesn't it seem more sensible? ALL-VEGETABLE LAXATIVE



Now... CANDY COATED or REGULAR!

Bearing Ills We deem those happy who, from the experience of life, have learned to bear its ills, without being overcome by them.—Juvenal.

MIDDLE-AGE WOMEN (38-52 yrs. old) HEED THIS ADVICE!!

If you're cross, restless, nervous—suffer hot flashes, dizziness—caused by this period in a woman's life—try Lydia Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Made especially for women. Helps to relieve distress due to this functional disturbance. Thousands upon thousands of women report remarkable benefits. Follow label directions.

Poor Judgment

The foolish and vulgar are always accustomed to value equally the good and the bad.—Junius.

WNU—13

51—41

Miserable with backache?

WHEN kidneys function badly and you suffer a nagging backache, with dizziness, burning, scanty or too frequent urination and getting up at night when you feel tired, nervous, all upset... use Doan's Pills. Doan's are especially for poorly working kidneys. Millions of boxes are used every year. They are recommended the country over. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS