

Christmas Greetings



MEANS CELEBRATE CHRIST'S BIRTH BY RINGING BELLS, BLOWING WHISTLES, AND SHOOTING FIREWORKS AT MIDNIGHT



SWEDISH GIRLS EMULATE ST. LUCIA, MEDIEVAL SAINT, DRESSED IN WHITE, WITH CROWN OF LIGHTED CANDLES. THEY CARRY COFFEE AND HOT BUNS FROM DOOR TO DOOR



IRISH SHOPKEEPERS GIVE THEIR CUSTOMERS CANDLES AS CHRISTMAS PRESENTS



WHEAT-FLOUR WAFERS CALLED OPLATKI, STAMPED WITH PICTURES OF THE NATIVITY, CONVEY CHRISTMAS GOOD WISHES IN POLAND



U.S. YULETIDE SPIRIT FINDS EXPRESSION IN COLORFUL CHRISTMAS CARDS. WARM-HEARTED AND APPEALING, THEY CARRY CHEER, HOLIDAY SWEETNESS TO FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES EVERYWHERE



WHY DOES SANTA PERSIST?

'Rightness' of Belief in Him Is Subject of Eternal Debate

WHO CAN ANSWER the riddle: Why does Santa Claus persist? Is it good or bad for children to believe in him? Teachers, psychiatrists and other specialists in human behavior at the juvenile level differ. The Santa Claus myth has strong convictions in its favor and convictions just as strong opposing it.

Children whose very progressive parents have explained to them that Santa Claus is only a myth have not been easy to convince. They fix their surprised parents with the coolest of condescending stares. They don't agree with the psychiatrists who say that a child who really believes in Santa Claus has had his thinking ability impaired. Even grownups berate the destroyers of the illusion.

Evidently Santa fills such a basic human need that it's not safe to tell people that he is fantasy. And it's more dangerous to try to prove it.

Belief in Santa satisfied children's need for love and security. They keep this belief as long as they need it, carrying their belief through various stages—they fear him, trust him, love him and then doubt him. But they never completely doubt

him, no matter how realistic they become, and they remember with joy the days of their utter credulity.

Psychiatrists fear that letting the child become possessed with the myth tends to make the adult attempt to preserve the infant pleasure subconsciously throughout life and remain emotionally immature.

And experts question whether children should be taught to believe literally something that is not literally true. One expert says:

"There is no sound psychological reason that I know of for children not enjoying the Santa myth as long as they know that it is not true. (But) if a child at 4 or 5 years of age can believe that one person can come down all the chimneys of the world in one night, and can fly through the air with reindeer and a sleigh and necessarily a heavy load, the child's whole relation with reality and whole ability to think clearly in terms of cause and effect have been seriously damaged or permanently destroyed. He will have learned that to think in relation to the evidence of his own eyes leads only to confusion and fear."



WELL WISHERS . . . Looking in at the window of the McGuekin home in New York is a whole flock of Santa Clauses, their hearts warmed by the sight of little Brendan C. McGuekin playing with his toys. Two years ago the toddler was stricken with polio which affected his legs, back and stomach, and his life was in critical danger.

UNIVERSAL SYMBOL

Every Nation Has Christmas Bells

The nations of the world have their individual symbols of Christmas. But there is one universal symbol—the bells of Christmas.

In a way this is strange since bells were not associated with the church until about 400 A.D. when an Italian bishop installed them in his church. Some authorities, however, claim that it wasn't until 604 that the first bells were placed in

churches.

Whatever the date, the custom has grown until there is perhaps no use of church bells so widely known in Christian countries as the ringing of chimes to herald the advent of the birth of Christ. From one end of the country to the other bells peal the story of "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."



People Confused

WOODROW WILSON once said, "The fundamental trouble in the United States is that the people have not been the real force back of the government."

This reporter feels that statement is largely true today in spite of the fact that great new mediums for the dissemination of news and information in the radio and television have grown up since Woodrow Wilson's time. It is true people are today better informed than they were on current issues 35 or 40 years ago although the government has been bitterly criticized and charged with lobbying in its feeble attempts to inform the people on what it is doing.

As a matter of fact, these attempts are feeble, in many instances not wholly frank on the part of government, and the leaders of today in the two great political parties have failed miserably to inform the people at the grass roots on the aims, purposes and accomplishments of their government or their party.

That this is true was brought home to this reporter in a trip through a large section of the country prior to the recent election. The vote in that election was not the result of any fundamental knowledge on the part of the voters on either side of the real issues in that campaign. After talking to scores of people, we concluded they were seeking information, woefully ignorant of what their government was doing. The tremendous force of the independent voter largely went Republican, not because of faith in a Republican program, for there was none. It went Republican because of a lack of faith caused by a lack of information on the Democratic program. The people picked up extraneous issues, local issues which they understand, and voted accordingly. Democratic in one state, Republican in another just across the line.

The Republican party and the Republican leadership branded Democratic principles as socialistic. They demanded Dean Acheson's resignation because they contended he protected Communists. Neither the socialist nor the Communist charge was true. And Acheson's resignation would not help the people. But they didn't know that because they had no reliable information otherwise.

Real Issue Ignored

The Republican organization conducted no educational campaign. Neither did the Democratic national organization on the real issues of the campaign. A dozen different pressure groups were at the same time cramming the air and the newspapers with propaganda, each with an axe of his own to grind. So how could the people be a real force back of government when they were confused, worried about high prices, fretting over foreign affairs and the Korean war, when no voice, no information, nothing they could tie to pierced the fog of uncertainty in which they were moving? It seems to this reporter that this administration, or any administration in power, should recognize the duty and the responsibility of truthfully, honestly and forcefully letting the people of the United States know just where they stand. In no other way can they become a real force.

Washington Silhouettes

Washington Silhouettes—The old woman who sells papers at 14th and G streets wearing a rain-coat rain or shine, because myriads of sparrows infest eaves of the building above her . . . The President, heavily guarded by secret service, being driven the short block from his executive office in the White House to his temporary residence in Blair House across the street . . . Before the recent attempt on his life, the President briskly walked the distance . . . Ratty looking temporary buildings erected during World War I, still in government use . . . Seating arrangements in the modernized house of representatives chamber reduces the aisles from seven to five and increase seats from 444 to 456.

Webster Quotation

Over the 24th door is this quotation from Daniel Webster: "Let us develop the resources of our land, call forth its powers, build up its institutions, promote all its great interests, and see whether we also in our day may not accomplish something worthy to be remembered."

New Senators

Seven of the 14 freshmen senators in the 82nd congress are house veterans. They are Nixon, California; Smathers, Florida; Dworshak, Idaho; Dirksen, Ill.; Hennings, Missouri; Monroney, Oklahoma; Case, South Dakota. Other freshmen are: Burtenshaw, Idaho; Butler, Maryland; Smith, North Carolina; Pastore, Rhode Island; Bennett, Utah; Clements, Kentucky and Carlson, Kansas.



Wandering Workers



● The mother above belongs to a family group some 1,500 miles from the home they had to leave because of economic conditions beyond their control and are presently stranded without means of a job. The mother and child, and the child at the right, represent a multitude of migratory citizens who are carrying on the struggle of existence against overwhelming odds.



● Thousands of migrant laborers have settled in shack towns like the one above after they became stranded in their travels from one town to another. At right are two boys caught in the stream of the American migratory movement. They should be in school, but they sit on the edge of the old canvas sheet which is stretched from the sides of a broken down truck and forms the only shelter for the family to which they belong. Unless something happens to change their situation these children and thousands of others will grow up with little education and become social problems.



weekly Picture story

● The problems of 2.5 million migrant laborers who help America eat by following the crops from south to north are shown in the new motion picture "Again . . . Pioneers!" produced by the Protestant Film Commission. At left are three children, ill-clothed and often hungry, sons and daughters of migrant workers.

Here's a Doll Buggy To Please Young Heart



For A Young Doll Mother HERE IS a doll buggy to be proud of. Adjustable top. Stylish lines. Modern and gay.

Pattern 221 gives list of materials; actual-size cutting guides; step-by-step directions for making and finishing. Enclose 25c with name and address.

WORKSHOP PATTERN SERVICE
Drawer 10
Bedford Hills, New York

Household Hints

Here's one for platinum rings only: Put some diluted laundry bleach in a glass and drop the ring in it for half an hour. It will be clean when you take it out.

A toothbrush is your best bet for cleaning up rusted cut-steel buckles and such, but don't hesitate to use scouring powder as the cleaning agent.

To clean white braid, wet an old toothbrush, rub it across a cake of mild soap and scrub the braid with it. The lather can be removed with a damp cloth.

Eat Dickinson POPCORN!



NIGHT COUGH

ruin your sleep?
FAST 3-WAY RELIEF!

Don't toss and turn from night coughs due to colds. Get Smith Brothers!
1. Ease dry throat tickle
2. Soothe your raw membranes
3. Help loosen phlegm
SMITH BROTHERS
BLACK COUGH DROPS

COLDS MISERIES?

WHY DON'T YOU TRY
666 LIQUID OR TABLETS

Personal To Women With Nagging Backache

As we get older, stress and strain, over-exertion, excessive smoking or exposure to cold sometimes slows down kidney function. This may lead many folks to complain of nagging backache, loss of pep and energy, headaches and dizziness. Getting up nights or frequent passages may result from minor bladder irritations due to cold, dampness or dietary indiscretions. If your discomforts are due to these causes, don't wait, try Doan's Pills, a mild diuretic. Used successfully by millions for over 50 years. While these symptoms may often otherwise occur, it's amazing how many times Doan's give happy relief—help the 15 miles of kidney tubes and filters flush out waste. Get Doan's Pills today!

DOAN'S PILLS

When Your Children have COUGHS . . . DUE TO COLDS

GIVE THEM GOOD-TASTING SCOTT'S EMULSION
Helps build stamina - helps build resistance to colds, if youngsters don't get enough natural A&D Vitamins! Scott's is a high energy FOOD TONIC—a "gold mine" of natural A&D Vitamins and energy-building natural oil. Easy to take. Many doctors recommend it! Buy today at your drug store.
MORE than just a tonic— it's powerful nourishment!
SCOTT'S EMULSION
HIGH ENERGY TONIC