

Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood — (U.P.) — Hollywood's famed anonymous Santa Claus could have used some help himself this year—but he still dug deep into his pockets to give \$20,000 to the needy.



Santa is the show business figure who since 1948 has mailed checks signed, simply, "Santa Claus" to deserving people around the country.

Only a few persons know his identity.

Santa did not have too good a 1955. He lost a large sum of money and had to cut down his St. Nick checks from his usual \$30,000 a year. But he was consoled by the thousands of letters that poured into his office "because it helps to know other people have troubles."

"But what Santa Claus could I write to?" he quipped.

Saved Colorado Farm

Despite his troubles, this generous celebrity saved a Ft. Collins, Colo., farm. A Korean veteran wrote that his father was sick but they were trying to keep the small farm going, so Santa sent \$50 to tide them over.

A Laredo, Tex., woman wrote Santa she took a job for \$10 a week as a waitress to buy Christmas toys for her children. She charged \$27.50 worth of gifts—but lost her job. She asked only for \$27.50, but Santa sent \$50 to pay the bill.

Santa also mailed \$100 to a Los Angeles woman with a sick husband. They were in danger of losing their three children to foster homes unless they could provide for them. Another \$150 went to supply horses for a Salvation Army Boys' camp.

Dramatic Deed

The anonymous St. Nick's most dramatic deed involved an unwed expectant mother in Riverside who was arrested for passing \$250 in bad checks to buy baby clothes and medicine.

"So her baby wouldn't start life with a terrible blot," Santa sent \$250 to the judge to make the checks good. The charges were dismissed.

Santa is proud of his new idea of giving \$25 to many "graduates" of the prison at Chino who otherwise would face the work penitentiary.

"The sheriff wrote me that the number of returnees—men who get in trouble again—has dropped 40 per cent," beamed

Santa. "And not one of the men I have helped wound up in jail again, or asked for further assistance. The money gives them the feeling that somebody outside cares for them."

The first person Santa helped in 1948 was an Austin, Tex., blind engineer who needed only \$87 to be graduated from the University of Texas so he could get a job. Santa sent the \$87, and has helped others to a total of \$150,000 since.

On TV Show

This year the celebrity appeared on the television show, "This is Your Life." But master-of-ceremonies Ralph Edwards did not know Santa's secret and never mentioned his unusual charity project. What if he had?

"Oh, I would have lied, and said I wasn't really Santa," chuckled Santa.

Each Christmas Santa's desk is heaped with cards, many from persons he has never helped. One Paducah, Ky., woman wrote, "You must be a brave, generous person with an understanding heart. I have been comforted in my knowledge there is such a man as you."

QUICK SUPPER

New York—(U.P.)—For a quick and tasty supper after a day of Christmas shopping, broil ham meat balls in canned peach halves.

Combine 3/4 pound of ground cooked ham with 1/2 cup rolled oats. The oats not only stretch the meat but also seal in the meat juices. Moisten with 1/4 cup of milk or pineapple juice and season with 2 tablespoons of catsup and 1 tablespoon prepared mustard. Shape into balls and place on six peach halves. Broil 8 to 10 minutes.

It doesn't make any difference whether light comes over your right or left shoulder when reading. For writing or sewing, however, the light should be at the left for a right-handed person and at the right for a left-handed person. This will avoid creating a shadow with the hand that's writing.

A Friday luncheon salad that offers tempting flavor contrast is made with tuna, celery and unpeeled red Delicious apples. Chop the apples and celery, combine with tuna and dress with mayonnaise. Thin cucumber slices make a good garnish for this salad, too.



Miss Helen Hayes, foremost actress of the American stage, points out one of many new ways she uses her Christmas Seals on gift packages. Illustrating new ways of using the Seals that fight tuberculosis, the Tie-Tie Gift Wrappings division of Chicago Printed String Company has designed a group of Christmas Seal gift packages especially for the 1955 Christmas Seal Sale of the Tuberculosis Associations.

NEW WALLPAPER CLEANER

New York—(U.P.)—New on the market: a non-rubbing wallpaper cleaner which is supposed to remove grease or oil stains and any finger marks with a grease or oil base. The stain remover is applied directly to wallpaper from the metal tube and then is spread with knife or spatula to form a layer over the stained area. Dry for 45 minutes and wipe gently with a soft, clean cloth.

BREAKFAST SOUP

Soup for breakfast is fast becoming a favorite. It's both quick-to-fix and satisfying, too. Try this soup-cereal combination in the morning. Have cooked white rice in the refrigerator in a covered container. Add 1 1/2 cups cooked rice to 1 can condensed tomato soup and 1 1/2 cans water. Mix and heat until very hot. Serve in soup or cereal bowls with a crunchy topping of crumbled crisp-cooked bacon. This is a hearty, healthy way to start your day.

Court Records

DISTRICT COURT
Clinton H. Johnson, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Aldo W. Green, operating without lights, \$5.
William R. Mitchell, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Harley D. McMasters, passing on crest of hill, \$7.50.
Jack J. Gardner, failure to display lights on parked vehicle, \$15.
William R. Mitchell, violation of basic rule, \$10, \$5 suspended.

CIRCUIT COURT
Louise N. Schultz vs. Paul L. Schultz, annulment complaint.

Christmas Trees To Cost Fifty Million Dollars This Year

By GERALD BOWKETT
United Press Correspondent

Washington — (U.P.)— Some 30,000,000 Christmas trees—with an estimated retail value of \$50,000,000—will be displayed in American homes this year, according to the Department of Agriculture.

Most of these are produced in states along the Canadian border. Montana, one of the leading producers, harvests approximately 3,000,000 trees annually under normal conditions.

More than 9,000,000 trees are imported each year from Canada—the only significant outside source. In past years, small numbers have been brought in from Newfoundland, Labrador and the Dominican Republic.

Eighty-seven per cent of U.S. production, estimated at 21,500,000 trees, comes from private land. The remainder is cut from federal state and county property.

Plantations

While the bulk of the nation's Christmas trees grow in a natural state, about 1,500,000 are cultivated on plantations. About 100,000 acres—nearly half of which are in Pennsylvania—are now devoted to Christmas tree planting.

About a dozen companies are responsible for procedures and distribution of Christmas trees. Their representatives contract with woodlawn owners for tree

delivery at roadside or railroad siding.

After shipment to urban areas, the trees are forwarded by wholesalers to the various retail outlets, an enterprise similar to that for distribution of other semi-perishable commodities.

The department, which says "there is no best all-around Christmas tree species," lists the following characteristics as the most desirable:

1. Retention of needles from time of cutting through Christmas holidays.
2. Full, symmetrical shape.
3. Limb strength adequate to support ornaments and lights.
4. Sufficient non-prickly foliage of a healthy green color.
5. Fragrant odor.
6. Springy branches that can be tied for shipment without breaking and regain their shape when released.

Best Types

While no one tree is "best," there are several species which conform closely to the department's list of desirable characteristics.

The balsam fir, found in central and eastern U.S., Christmas tree markets, is the most commonly used tree. Its short, flat, dark green needles are attached to opposite sides of the tree limbs in a feather-like arrangement.

The Douglas fir's blue-green or dark yellow-green needles,

Choir to Present Vesper Program

Ashland — Choir members from Southern Oregon college, directed by Oscar Bjorlie, head of the music department, will present their traditional Christmas vesper's program today, in Churchill hall auditorium at 3:30 o'clock. The general public is cordially invited to attend.

The choir will open the hour-long program with the Gregorian chant, "Oh Come, Oh Come, Immanuel" and five other selections. This group will be followed by sextet, octet and quartet numbers and will close with another group of choir selections.

"We Wish You a Merry Christmas," the final number, has been arranged by the director for this program.

A preview of the program was obtained by SOC students and

faculty during the regular Wednesday morning assembly held December 14 in Churchill hall.

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