

Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS
Editor

BILL JENKINS
Managing Editor

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CAUGHT IN THE ROUNDS

By DEB ADDISON

RETAIL MEMO:

Time was when the corner drug store handled everything, from kerosene to canary seed, and all other lines of business demanded their share of the omnibus nature. Their answer was that if drug stores didn't introduce new items they'd never see the light of day.

Now it's the druggists who are scratching their heads. Food markets handle and sell a large volume of their "store" items. Medical services are in the prescription business. Variety stores handled everything else.

That's not the latest in the shifting tide of retail business however. Restaurants are entering the "convenience foods" business that largely has been in the hands of supermarket chains.

Cashing in on the swing to pre-cooked, and completely prepared - cooking foods, the restaurants are opening more and more take-home departments.

Already one chain, Horn and Hardart in the East, has begun advertising their retail outlets in newspapers and other media with the theme "less work for mother."

Other restaurants are expected to follow suit as soon as they have enough take-home sections.

Meanwhile, national manufacturers of convenience foods are pushing their products with record advertising budgets to educate the consumer to the advantages of prepared foods, and quite a few of them are teaming up with the chain food stores in related advertising.

Christmas business in the nation's department and specialty stores is expected to top 1953's volume by five per cent and equal the record performance of 1952.

SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK (AP)—The British pound sterling is at its lowest level in relation to the American dollar in two years—a more than seasonal weakness that has the experts speculating around for explanations.

And the talk about making the pound freely exchangeable with the dollar is being shunted aside once more.

The British claim they have liberalized trade and currency exchange progressively this year so that soon it will look a little like convertibility.

American bankers point out that what Britain seems to be aiming at for the moment is a hard-to-convertible-to use an automobile industry term. It may look like a convertible. But just try to roll the top back.

Convertibility is that state of comparative international financial innocence that prevailed way back when... in those pre-World War I days you could take some dollars and buy some British pounds, or French francs or Argentine pesos without hindrance, if you liked the rate the seller offered.

For the American businessman that meant if he sold \$10 worth of his goods abroad he could bring 100 dollars back to this country if he liked. It meant that the American farmer could do the same if he sold grain or cotton abroad.

Now the farmer often must accept the money of the country in which he sells—and if he has no use for the foreign money, chances are he can't make the sale, and the grain or cotton goes into a U.S. government price support warehouse.

Americans go on selling abroad when they can, or bartering when they can't get dollars, or playing three-way bookkeeping deals with other countries. Some big corporations have set up special departments to handle the new look in world trade.

Government agencies try three-way barter deals, also. The Foreign Operations Administration is working out a deal with Denmark whereby we send her four million dollars worth of our surplus farm commodities. She in turn is to send an equal amount of her products to one or more nations to whom we already have promised foreign aid.

The whole thing will be done without the exchange of dollars in

ACCIDENT

SHOEBURNESS, England (AP)—John Waller, 39, was trying to fix a gun used to drive nails into hard wood when it went off and shot a nail through his stomach and out his back. He was in fair condition at a hospital.

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THANK AND A TIP OF THE HAT TO THE HATHAL AT THE NEXT TABLE...

HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—It has always been my contention that children are more intelligent than grown-ups.

One sign of intelligence is the ability to get what you really need or want out of life.

And the Christmas season is the time when the kids best show their mental superiority over adults in this respect. A child knows exactly the present he wants, and he knows the right technique for getting it.

The little boys and girls get out their school pads and pencils and write letters such as the following:

"Dear Santa Claus,
I am a little girl just six years old. Boy, have I been a good girl. I've been so good my mommy says if she had another little girl just like me she wouldn't know what to do. I want a bike and pigtails and a net dress and police don't bring me no more dolls on accounta I already got more dolls than a store.

your littl fren,
Rosebud O'Hare."

On Christmas day Rosebud and her pal next door, Butch Rosenzanz, compare the loot.

"Sure, I got 'actly what I wanted," brags Rosebud. "Don't you think my daddy can read plain writ'?"

"I thought you ast for pigtails—you ain't got no pigtails," objects Butch.

"Silly, I knew there wasn't time to grow pigtails 'fore Christmas," says Rosebud. "I jus' put in about the pigtails so they'd be sure to get me the bike. That's what I really wanted."

It is this striking innocence about children that pays off. They have faith. Grownups are only older children with ulcers, and they get the ulcers because they are frustrated, and it is their own fault usually that they are frustrated.

They have lost faith. They pretend they aren't mad when they don't get what they want for Christmas, but they really are hurt, and they sulk inside.

The real reason they often don't get what they want is because they are so dumb. Any child realizes Santa Claus has to be told what to bring. But silly grownups make their secret Christmas wishes and keep them to themselves. Then they get angry because Santa Claus hasn't been able to read their mind.

Here is what an adult should do. He should sit down and write a letter as follows:

"Dear Santa Claus:
I am just a poor tired grownup. But I've been a good boy all year. I never have got what I wanted for Christmas.

"This year I'd like to, I want some gloves, size 10, and some shirts with regular collars, (neck 15 1/2, sleeves 33), and a pair of black shoes, (size 10-C), and a blue camel's hair coat (size 42 regu-

Hugh Pruett

Astronomer, Extension Division Oregon Higher Education System

1. "During the time the moon was full in November, it came up so far north that I was surprised. I had never seen it in that location before. What was wrong?"

This query came from three different sources. There was nothing wrong with our lunar neighbor. During every month the moon rises and sets far north for a few nights, but most of the time this occurs at an hour when it is not noticed. But when this takes place at full moon — and with a clear sky — it is widely observed.

Let us state a simple rule for the location of the full moon. Practically everyone knows from observation that in our latitudes during the longest days of the year the sun rises far over toward the northeast, slants toward the south and sets far north for a few nights, but most of the time this occurs at an hour when it is not noticed. But when this takes place at full moon — and with a clear sky — it is widely observed.

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Altar Society Holds Meeting

MERRILL—St. Augustine's Altar Society met at the parish hall recently for the regular monthly meeting.

Members will distribute sacks of candy to Confraternity of Christian Doctrine students on Sunday, December 19.

Committee appointments were made as follows: Mrs. John O'Neill and Mrs. Peter Callie, purchase and arrange flowers for Christmas; Mrs. Maurice O'Keefe and Mrs. John O'Neill, purchase new linen, pots and pans for the parish house; Mrs. John O'Neill, Mrs. John Deegan and Mrs. John Madgen, nominating committee.

A party for all who helped at the recent bazaar is planned for sometime in January. Details will be announced.

The next regular meeting will be January 12, with a 1 p.m. potluck luncheon preceding the business meeting.

The Rev. Father John Phelan and 10 members were present at the November meeting.

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Those mysterious telephone calls, letters and packages are beginning to arrive, and whisperings behind doors. It's the sure-fire forerunner of Christmas in households where children are involved.

I like our seven grandchildren and two great-grandda a lot, but they sure can get under foot on occasion; seems that sometimes we are knee deep in them.

I guess though that if they lived far off, as only two of them do, I'd be wishing they were around more.

They drop in like they live here, strangely at meal time, like those friends who just happen to be passing at the cocktail hour.

A couple of them frequently make it for breakfast en route to school. They've had breakfast at home but you wouldn't think it by the time they down a second farmland meal. Where do they put it?

We have them in all sizes, ages and temperaments, from nine months to 23 years. They have kept Fanny and Anna and me young at heart regardless of creeping years and creaking joints; and though I too often don't seem to reflect it, I'd be a lonesome old crab without them. As it is, I'm just a complaining old crab, they think.

Well, somebody has to set 'em back in meetin' or Fanny and Anna would give them the front door — and they'd take it.

But it's Christmas time that makes them most dear to all of us. How I pity people who must pass Christmas with no children about them. And how I marvel that the such don't brighten their day by searching out unfortunate kids in their midst; and feel the joy that Christmas brings with the knowledge that their thoughtfulness brought happiness to lonely little hearts.

No man lives who can't do himself this great service and feel a better man for having done it. In our town we have the Arctic League borne by a group of baseball fans 42 years ago, now grown to making Christmas happy for more than 3,000 children every year.

That no other place on earth has anything exactly like it doesn't stop the individual anywhere from bringing himself equal blessing when he awakens Christmas morning.

Try it this year, and you'll never stop. Search out a couple of kids who are looking longingly into tinseled windows of trinkets, with noses pressed against the glass, unattended hands hopefully reaching toward a toy or a doll; until moved along by milk-clad dames in search for a truckload of expensive gifts to confuse their pampered small fry.

Don't know any? Just ask a social agency, a policeman, or a school teacher. And don't make the mistake of inquiring about "worthiness." Every neglected child is worthy. He is not to blame for the wastefulness, selfishness or drunkenness of his parents.

He sees and hears Christmas all about him. The store windows are jammed with things his little heart craves that are not for him. A Santa stands on every corner. The air is full of "Silent Night" and "Little Star of Bethlehem."

What, in the name of heaven, does he think, to awaken Christmas morning the same bewildered forgotten little tyke?

Learn the story back of countless delinquents, criminals, social enemies and you'll know what he thinks.

You can do something about it. Today is the time to start doing. Doing more for yourself than for the unfortunate you befriend on this most blessed of all — The Day for Children.

ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL by KEN MCLEOD

Now that we are approaching the Christmas season, the Bird Watchers of the Klamath Basin are again starting to lay plans to take their annual Christmas Bird Count. The Nature Society of the Klamath Basin, which makes this annual check of species present in our area will hold its regular meeting in the conference room of the Chamber of Commerce, 8 o'clock Thursday evening, December 9th, at which time the day on which the Christmas Bird count will take place will be selected. Sunday December 26, appears to be the day that may be chosen.

The Christmas Bird Count to be taken this year will be the sixth such count to be made in the Klamath Basin. The first count taking place in 1948 when five groups of counters went into the field and during a six hour period made a tally of some 4,826 birds covering 60 different species. In 1949, four groups of counters tallied 12,587 birds in 69 species. Since that time the number of species seen and the number of birds counted continue to mount in number, until last year's count brought in a total of 143,624 birds of 109 species and subspecies.

Each year the task grows in extent as more people join in this enterprise, back in 1948 there were 21 party hours spent in the field during which 87 miles were covered by car and ten miles by foot. The 1953 count had a record of 74 hours in the field with travel by car amounting to 510 miles by car and 19 miles by foot, taking the Christmas Count of Birds is quite a game it emphasizes the remarkable number of birds present with us during the Christmas Season both in actual number of individuals and in the number of species to be seen.

As you will note, much of the bird counting is done by travel by auto but in addition there is quite a bit of foot work entering into the record. The number of species to be found and the number of birds to be seen naturally depend upon the number of observers that take on the field each year. In no manner of thought is this Christmas Count intended to be an actual check of bird life of the Klamath Basin though with more observers in the field the better chance of recording the total number of species actually present in the area. But even then the counters miss quite a number of species that are known to be present in the Basin yet when you specifically go out to find them they are not at home to callers on the day of the Christmas Count, however, the following day they may be back in their usual haunts.

The amount of travel, however, actually does cover a very good sample of the Klamath Basin area, reaching from Crater Lake on the north to the Modoc Lavabeds on the south. From Keno on the west to Bly on the east. It is in the National Wildlife Refuge, however, where the birds are in their greatest concentration and from which the Christmas Count obtains its greatest number of birds.

The Christmas Count is taken at a time of year which is after the great migration of birds to their winter homes in lands to the south has taken place and we have only those birds present which will spend the winter with us. The local bird count is an outgrowth of a national undertaking sponsored by the National Audubon Society and the Fish and Wildlife Service. It is the greatest cooperative yearly ornithological project in the world. Christmas Counts have been conducted annually since 1900 when it was started by a small group of 27 observers. This year the number of observers who will take to the field to count birds on one day during Christmas week across the nation will run into the thousands.

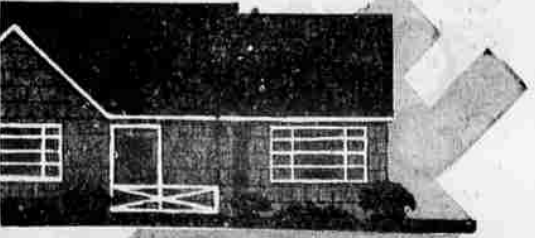
Here in Oregon, the other areas which take regular counts of the Bird life during the Christmas period are North Bend, Eugene and Portland. Elsewhere across the nation the communities making reports are now numbered in the hundreds and those communities located in the southern portion of the nation where a vast number of the birds actually winter are the communities which turn in the largest lists. Santa Monica, California, heads all the communities in number of species seen during any one Christmas Count by setting a record in 1934 of 166 species. Many communities in the northern portion of the nation do well to come up with twenty species. The remarkable position that the Klamath Basin has in the life of birds is emphasized by the fact that with a sufficient number of observers the members of the Nature Society hope the day may come when they may have the opportunity of checking at least 121 species on a single winter day. The society invites the whole Klamath Basin to enter into this annual winter activity.

QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds



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