

# WARDS OPEN EVERY NIGHT TIL' 9PM UNTIL CHRISTMAS

## Yule Holly Fashioned In Oregon

By RICHARD H. SYRING  
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.  
PORTLAND, Ore. (NEA) — Christmas always comes early to hundreds of women in packing sheds in western Oregon.

About mid-November, these nimble-fingered workers start packing red-berried holly, fashioning wreaths or putting up bouquets for shipment to all parts of the United States.

The moist rolling hills produce about 75 per cent of the nation's English holly. That's the variety so popular with Americans at this time of the year. Oregon grows approximately 1,500 acres of holly, Washington about 250 acres, with Northern California orchards accounting for the rest of the West Coast production.

By Christmas time, some 1,200,000 pounds of holly will have left these Oregon packing sheds. This is equivalent to 150 rail cars, although truck and air freight now are pressed into service.

An extra heavy crop, with all boughs well berried, has caused some price cutting. Holly growers complain that this doesn't make them very cheerful, with labor and boxing costs continuing to go upwards.

However, there's no lack of buyers. Corporations and other business Christmas-gift givers still present holly.

Ambrose Brownell of Brownell Holly Farms near Portland, who has been in business a half century, explains with a grin, "Once a fellow starts giving holly for Christmas, he's pretty much stuck with the procedure. Once a woman, or a man for that matter, starts receiving holly each season, they begin to expect it each year."

Holly is trimmed from trees, many 20 feet and higher, which grow in orchard-like rows. It is then brought into dipping sheds, where a solution keeps the berries and foliage fresh for the entire Christmas season.

After a dip, the holly then is dried and ready for packing or being made into wreaths, etc.

English-type holly is the American favorite because it has a spiny, ruffled edge. Also, the holly must have lightweight stems. Smooth holly leaves with pale berries attached to heavy, coarse stems, never brings a premium price.

Holly selling continues to be a Christmas season procedure. Attempts have been made to make holly popular at Easter or Thanksgiving, but Americans stick to the traditional Christmas season. The American Holly Society has been making some headway, though, in having holly trees planted in parks, cemeteries and along roadways.

## Rangers Active In Texas

AUSTIN, Tex. (UPI) — "I had a little shooting match, and they lost."

Times have changed since this to-the-point report was turned in many years ago by a Texas Ranger assigned to clean out a gang of cattle rustlers.

But the Texas Ranger of today, as a member of one of the world's most famous law enforcement bodies, is very much akin to his predecessor.

He's still over six feet tall, wears the traditional white Stetson hat and cowboy boots, says very little and acts a lot when the chips are down.

The 62-man Texas Ranger squad is headed by Col. Homer Garrison, who is celebrating his 25th anniversary as chief ranger. Garrison also is director of the state highway patrol and its entire public safety division.

**Rich In Tradition**

Texas Ranger history is rich with lore and tradition, and 99 per cent of it is based on fact.

Garrison's favorite Ranger story is about the 1905 riot at the Rusk State Hospital for the Criminally Insane. Sixteen inmates were holed up and were threatening to kill anyone who came near them.

Garrison dispatched a single Ranger, Capt. Bob Crowder of Dallas, to the scene. Five minutes after his arrival the riot was over. Asked what he said to them, Crowder answered, "I just told them to cut out this stuff."

Garrison also relates—and believes—the story of a single Ranger who was sent to an east Texas town to prevent a lynching about the turn of the century.

When he stepped off the train, leading citizens of the town demanded to know where his men were.

"There's only one mob, isn't there," replied the Ranger.

**Never Back Out**

"There's an unwritten code in the Rangers," Garrison said. "You don't back out of situations. If you do, you're through."

About 18 months ago Garrison fired one Ranger who let himself get kidnaped by a bank robber.



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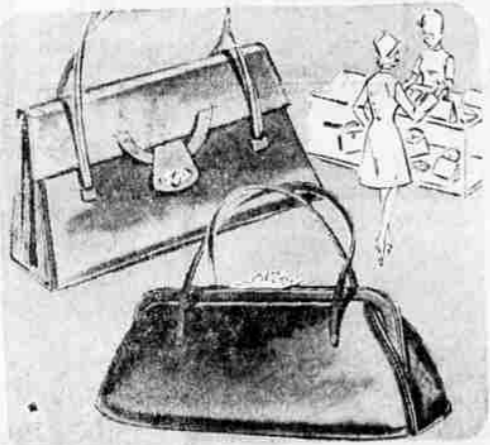
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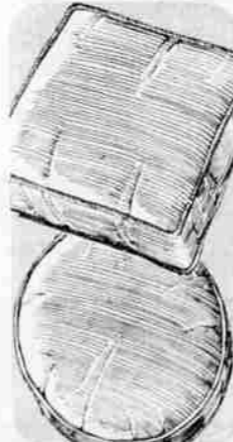
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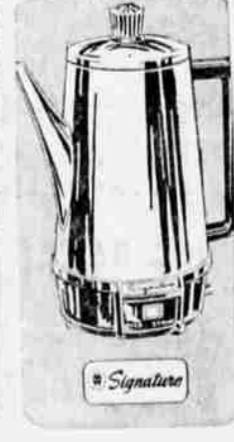


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