

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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Remember 'It'—And Do Your Part

By PAT WRIGHT (Nyssa High Journalism Student)
It gives no warning. Do you think you can escape it by ignoring it? No. It can sneak up on you, on a member of your family, or on your best friend, and without the kindness of conventional symptoms, it takes its crippling toll.

The "it," of course, is tuberculosis. During this season, we hear a lot about the disease. We hear that Christmas seals are being mailed to our homes. We are asked to contribute as much as we can to the fight against TB, to protect the family circle.

We are told facts about TB: that it is contagious, for example; that it strikes people of all ages; that it gives no warning and can only be caught in the early stages, when it can be stopped, by chest x-rays and tuberculin skin tests we so often neglect.

But when we listen to the campaign—when we make our contributions and lick our seals—let's not give ourselves too many self-satisfied pats on the back. TB remains an "it" . . . a dread disease that can cripple young lives and old without warning.

It is not enough to merely listen. Nor is it enough to buy and use Christmas seals, if we let it go at that. Take the Christmas seal slogan, "Protect the Family Circle," literally, for it applies to you and yours, to every family in the world. Tuberculosis must be fought by every one of us, and the battlefields are many. Only through check-ups, chest x-rays, skin tests, regular safeguards to good health such as good eating habits and sufficient sleep, and finally, through research supported in part by our Christmas seal contributions, will TB become only a has-been "it."

Christmas Seals Fight TB



And Other Respiratory Diseases

Nyssa Retreat Slated For Methodist Youth

A winter retreat for Methodist older youth will convene at the Nyssa church beginning Wednesday, Dec. 27, at 1 p.m. and continue until Thursday noon. Representatives from Eastern Oregon and Western Idaho will be attending.

Theme of the meeting will be "Everyday Christianity," and the Rev. Paul LaRue of Boise will be speaker. Harlan Sager of Nyssa is chairman of this annual retreat for college youth.

Meals will be provided by the

LUDLOW ATTENDS MEETING

The Rev. Paul Ludlow attended a meeting on development of the Wallawa Methodist camp Monday afternoon at La Grande. The meeting was held at the home of Professor Floyd Hill of Eastern Oregon college, who is chairman of the committee.

The Rev. Ludlow reports that the trip home was made in a "blinding" snowstorm all the way from La Grande to Ontario.

local woman's society and those attending will bring sleeping bags to retire Wednesday evening in the church.

Yes, Virginia . . . There Is a Santa Claus!

(Editor's Note—Back in 1897, little Virginia O'Hanlon wrote the following letter to the editor of the New York Sun: "I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, 'If you see it in The Sun, it's so.' Please tell me the truth—is there a Santa Claus?" The editor wrote a newspaper and literary classic in reply to the childish plea.)

"Yes, indeed! Virginia, your little friends are wrong.

"They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age—they do not believe except what they see—they think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds.

"All minds, Virginia, whether

they be men's or children's, are little.

"In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole truth and knowledge.

"He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable their existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with

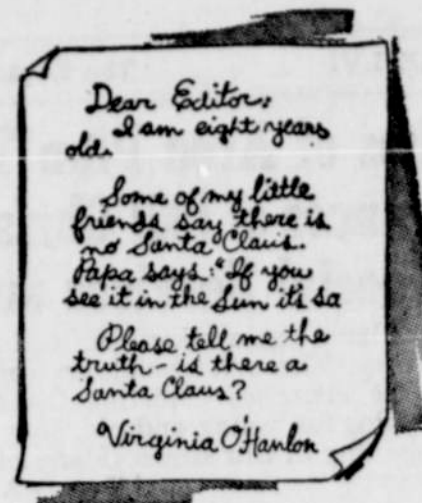
which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

"Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies!

"You might get your father to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus—that most real things in the world are those neither children nor men can see.

"Did you ever see the fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there—nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

"You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest men, or even the united strength of all the strongest men who ever lived, could part. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside the curtain



and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond.

"It is all real—ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

"No Santa Claus! Thank God!—he lives, and he lives forever—a thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

Advent Season Begins Church Year—A Time To Prepare for Christmas

By JAN RINEHART (Nyssa High Journalism Student)
Advent season begins the church year. This was a well chosen time, a time of preparation to allow the receiver to prepare himself through meditation and worship for the greater gift, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

No gift should be received without preparation for the receiving of this gift. John, the Baptist, is the chief character

Advent has, as any New Year should, three aspects: past, present and future. It looks backward to the historical fact of Christ's coming and prepares for the commemoration of that event. It looks into our hearts today and prepares us for His continuous coming into our lives. It looks forward to His second coming and sets our gaze on the end for which all Creation is designed.

Christmas Follows Advent

Following the season of Advent is Christmas. Christmas commemorates our Lord's birth. The joy of Christmas is the relationship between man and God. Christmas now is a lost season.

In our commercialized culture Christmas decorations go up and Christmas music begins to play just after Thanksgiving. The result is that we have our Christmas during Advent and, consequently, lose both seasons.

Christmas is not a season of just giving gifts, but a season of giving ourselves to others and to God. Gifts used to be given on Epiphany, Jan. 6. Christmas is a season of rejoicing, and this rejoicing should last until Epiphany.

Christian Year Completed

The third season of the Christian year is Epiphany. This commemorates the first time anyone became aware that Jesus was a universal Savior. This occasion is called Epiphany or "showing." The "Wise Men" who came from the East following the star are symbols of this season.

Thirty years ago families would gather with the oldest member of the family, and they would celebrate as a group with the worship, feasting and fun. Now people go away from home and have a vacation of recreation.

There is no worship in the season for many families. As a result of these pleasures, Christ is becoming further removed from Christmas. Commercial exploitation of giving gifts has dimmed the true Christmas light that shone so brilliantly almost 2,000 years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Chester, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wilson were guests at a buffet supper Sunday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Greig Clancy in Vale.

Story Behind Cross Sets the Scene For '62 TB Campaign

By MARION TALBOT (Nyssa High Journalism Student)

Little known to the general public is the long and noble history of the red double-barred cross which, to most, simply symbolizes the fight against tuberculosis.

Likenesses of this cross have been in existence since the first Crusade, when it appeared on the standard of Godefroy de Bouillon, Duke of Lorraine.

The cross has played a part in many causes. The most recent cause which it served was the fighting French, under General Charles de Gaulle during World War II.

Dr. Gilbert Sersiron, a Frenchman, first suggested that the cross be adopted as the emblem of the modern crusade against tuberculosis.

On Oct. 23, 1902, in Berlin the International Tuberculosis conference adopted Dr. Sersiron's suggestion.

By a resolution at their annual meeting May 17, 1906, the National Tuberculosis association made the red double-barred cross their official emblem.

They then proceeded to standardize it. On May 8-9, 1913, a likeness of the cross we have today was officially adopted.

Bull-dog staff members will be wearing the symbolical crosses today.

In the German Alps it is believed that the cattle have the gift of language on Christmas Eve. But it is a sin to play the eavesdropper on them.

Letters to Editor

Signed letters to the editor are welcomed and will be printed if they do not contain comments of a libelous nature or attacks on religious and racial groups. Publication of the letters does not signify the agreement of this newspaper with opinions expressed.

Nyssa Gate City Journal Nyssa, Oregon Dear Sirs,

On behalf of the National Model Railroad Association and myself, I wish to express a hearty thank you for the publicity given by the Nyssa Gate City Journal prior to and during National Model Railroad Week from November 26 through December 2, 1961.

Your articles undoubtedly contributed to the success of the week.

Again, thank you very much.

Sincerely yours, W. A. WILT President and General Manager South Side Lines

Dear Friends,

Since we are traveling from place to place as well as in Old Mexico and can't have a definite address, we think best not to renew the Gate City Journal at this time. We have enjoyed reading the Journal for the past 14 years and miss getting all the local news of our many friends.

We will probably be back in that area in about a year and will see you then. Until then, we extend to you and yours and the gentle people of Nyssa area our sincere appreciation and a Happy and Prosperous Christmas and New Year.

Very truly yours, LILLIAN and BILL DUNN

Mr. and Mrs. Paul House returned Monday afternoon from a 10-day trip. He had attended a convention in Denver and from there had gone to Michigan on business. Mrs. House visited relatives in Denver and Colorado Springs.

Modern Christmas Season Festivities Haunted by Over-Commercialization

By CHERYL ZESIGER (Nyssa High Journalism Student)

Christmas has become too commercialized! Some children aren't even aware of the true meaning of Christmas.

With all the festivities, parents are forgetting to tell their children why there is Christmas. Maybe they don't know themselves!

Recently aluminum Christmas trees were constructed. These trees have replaced the evergreens which represented life. Children no longer have the privilege of making the decorations, because, "Mommy can buy prettier ones at the department store."

Christmas Eve is different today than it was a generation ago. Now a few members of the family decorate the tree. There are many different activities and parties to attend on Christmas Eve. The few who remain home spend the evening in front of the television set.

Of course the children don't hang up stockings, because Santa brings ones which are already filled with candy.

Obligation, instead of love, is the main reason for buying gifts. It is the price of the gift that counts, not the thought behind it. Hardly anyone makes gifts, because it is easier to buy them.

Preparation of food for the holidays has been lessened. Now the housewife picks out the candies, cookies, cakes and pies at the bakery or super-market. This decreases the old-fashioned atmosphere of the home.

To further prove the fact that the true meaning of this holiday is fading, "Christmas" is now spelled "Xmas." What kind of respect is all this commercialization showing?

Make Your Sabbath COMPLETE CHURCH SUNDAY NIGHT

Group Services at 7 p.m. Song and Evangelism, 7:45

Nazarene Church Corner of Fifth and Good Ave. Nyssa, Oregon OMAR BARNHOUSE Pastor



NYSSA MOTORS, Inc. Johnnie Pierson and Employees

Late Christmas Shoppers!

We Still Have Beautiful Selections

FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

OPEN UNTIL 8:00 P.M. THROUGH SATURDAY

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

... and ...

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Wilson Bros. Dept. Store



May this Yuletide impart New Joy and Happiness into your heart.

SHAW'S CAFE

SANTA RETURNS TO NYSSA!



Santa Claus Will Return to Nyssa Saturday, Dec. 23, With FREE CANDY for the Kiddies.

LOOK FOR HIM!!

He'll Be in Downtown Nyssa from 3 to 4 p.m.

... FREE SHOW ...

"The Kettles on Old MacDonald's Farm"

At Nyssa Theatre, 1:30 p.m.—Free to Children!