



Prayer FOR CHRISTMAS

"Peace on earth, good will to all men" is our heartfelt prayer at this holy Christmas season.

TOWNE GARAGE

Carol Can Be Tongue-Twister

"On the first day of Christmas, my true love sent to me a partridge in a pear tree." So begins "The Twelve Days of Christmas," a traditional and favorite song of the holiday season. The ballad tells the story of the gifts a lover sends to his lady on each of the 12 days from Christmas to Epiphany.

The first gift, a partridge in a pear tree, may have been inspired by an old drinking song, "A Pie sat on a Pear Tree," say the editors of The New Book of Knowledge.

As a ballad, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is an example of the "number chain formula" in folk songs. As a carol, it is of the type that marked the change from formal hymns in Latin to musical poems in the vernacular of the people.

The song can be sung in a variety of ways. In Great Britain and the United States, it often becomes a game song in which each person following a leader in repetitions, must pay a forfeit if he misses a line. Sometimes the descriptions of the gifts turn into mouth defying tongue twisters!

Log Had Charms

In ancient Germany, the Yule log was known as the "Christbrand." One belief held that if the charred log was placed in a corbin, it would act as a charm to ward off mice. If the weather turned stormy, the Christbrand was quickly brought back to the fire. While it burned, superstition said, the house was safe from lightning.

Going "Mumming"

"Mumming" is a Yule custom that originated in early England. Mummers, masked and in costume, silently enacted ritual plays about the death of winter and the old year.

The custom still survives in some parts of the world, although the plays are no longer performed. Today mummers usually entertain with dancing and instrumental music. They are rewarded with treats.

"Christ Is Born"



FAITHFUL TO THE SPIRIT OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS is "The Nativity," by the Florentine painter Mariotto Albertinelli (1474-1515). The simple scene presents the Christ Child, with Mary and Joseph, in a realistic setting, and background detail suggests a hillside manger, typical of the rocky caves which were used for stables in Bethlehem. Painting is in the Uffizi Gallery, in Florence, Italy.

CHRISTIANS CELEBRATE HOLIDAY WITH JOY AND PRAYER

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'" - Luke 2:13-14

In church services this Christmas season, Christians everywhere gather to commemorate the miracle of a holy night nearly 2,000 years ago. The message of Christmas lives anew in candlelight and carols, in pageants and prayers.

Joyfully, the happiness of the Christmas finds expression in music and song. Choirs sing the praises of the Babe of Bethlehem, and sacred hymns and carols reflect the spirit of rejoicing. Even as the herald angels sang to shepherds long ago so now exultant voices join in proclaiming the Birth of Christ, with "on earth peace, good will toward men."

"And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, 'Let us go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.'"

"And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger." - Luke 2:15-16

Along with the joyous exultation, there is a spirit of thankful humility in celebration of this holy Day. In both church and private devotionals, Christians ponder anew the word of the Christmas story, as it was told by two of his disciples, Matthew and Luke. It is read and re-read, remembered and reflected upon. And it is be-

held, symbolically, in Nativity scenes that, by treasured tradition, recreate the manger of His birth.

Prayerfully, each congregation and each individual celebrates Christmas, keeping always in memory that the glory of His coming was first revealed to humble shepherds, and that the Holy Child was born in a simple manger. Worshippers give thanks to God, for the Miracle and its meaning.

"And when they were come into the house, they were the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down, and worshipped Him; and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh."

Matthew 2:11 The Wise Men, says St. Matthew, followed a Star to seek and find the Babe of Bethlehem. Their joy at beholding Him, and their precious gifts in homage, express much of the wonder and majesty of the Christmas story, as it is envisioned today. Yet in those gifts was a prophecy, a poignant reminder of the sacred solemnity, the highest meaning of Christmas.

Gold was a precious treasure, fitting gift for the newborn King. Frankincense, an ingredient of incense, expressed the legendary belief that "incense owns a deity night."

The third gift was in sad token of great sorrow to come. Myrrh, used by the ancients in funeral rites, symbolized Christ's own supreme gift of life and foretold His death upon the cross.

At the manger, there was the

shadow of Calvary. Thus Christmas is celebrated, joyfully, prayerfully, solemnly, with dedication to its sacred meaning: The Child born in a manger was the Son of God, destined to take up the burdens of mankind and bear them to the Cross, where He died that the spirit of man might live forever.

Baking the Pie

"The devil dares not show himself in Cornwall at Christmas time lest he should be baked in a pie."

This old English saying takes its humorous inspiration from the wide variety of ingredients actually used in the mince pies and other Christmas pies of early England, according to the editors of The New Book of Knowledge.

One 14th-century recipe for a Christmas pie included: a pheasant, a hare, a capon, two partridges, two pigeons, two rabbits, beef meat balls, eggs, pickled mushrooms, seasonings and spices, all in a pastry crust.



for Christmas

A special thanks to you... our good friends throughout the community... for your faithful patronage and continued good will.

SUGAR BOWL
Nyssa . . . Oregon



CHRISTMASTIME GREETINGS

Our warmest thanks to you, with the wish that this merry season will bring with it a sleigh-full of joys and bright Christmas Cheer.

Oregon Concrete Products
NYSSA . . . GLADE CHADWICK, Manager



GREETINGS

May we just take a moment to express our gratitude for your patronage. The wish of all of us here is that you and yours enjoy the merriest of holidays.

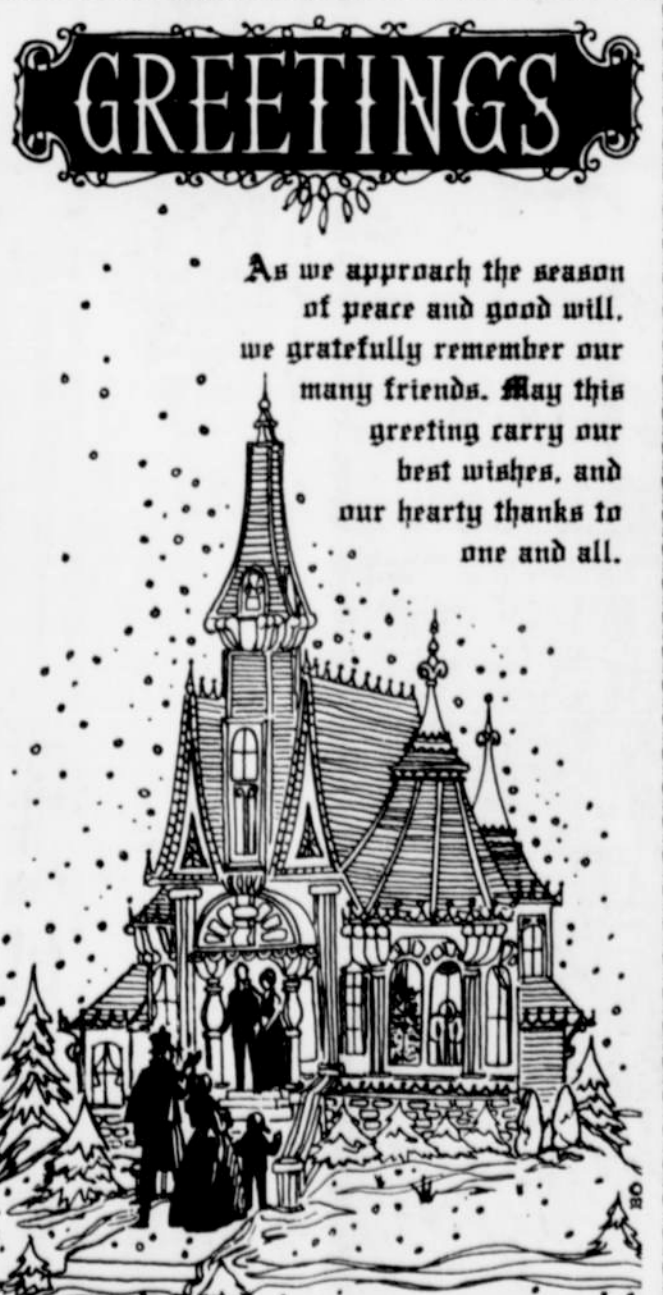
Nyssa Insurance Agency
RALPH G. LAWRENCE



GREETINGS

Holiday time is here once again, and we take this happy occasion to wish every joy of the season to our good friends. It's always a pleasure to serve you, and we thank you!

FARMERS FEED and SEED COMPANY



GREETINGS

As we approach the season of peace and good will, we gratefully remember our many friends. May this greeting carry our best wishes, and our hearty thanks to one and all.

WARD'S SHELL SERVICE



GREETINGS

Our warmest wishes to you and your family for a holiday season that's brimming with glad times and good fellowship. May your blessings be many, enriching your days and bringing you joy.

Nyssa Auto Parts