

THE BROADLANDS NEWS

VOLUME 31—NUMBER 36

BROADLANDS, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, DEC. 18, 1947

\$2 PER YEAR

News Items of 12 and 20 Years Ago

Dec. 19, 1935

Misses Alice Maxwell and Juanita Bergfeld were Danville visitors.

Mrs. Albert Telling left for Springfield, Ohio, to spend the holidays with relatives.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Stuebe was recovering from burns suffered when she fell against a stove.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bahlow were pleasantly surprised when a number of friends gathered at their home to observe their silver wedding anniversary.

20 Years Ago

Dec. 23, 1927

Miss Helen McCormick was a Danville shopper.

Misses Edith Smith and Mildred Neal were Danville shoppers.

Warren and Wilma Richard arrived home from Quincy to spend the holidays.

Misses Anna and Hazel Dohme were home from Normal to spend the holidays.

Mrs. Ronald Cable and son arrived from Chicago to spend the holidays with relatives.

Mrs. Mary Fuell and Jas. Burton, both of Broadlands, were married at the courthouse in Danville.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

P. E. Kerkhoff, Pastor

9:30—Sunday School and Bible Class.

10:15—Public Worship. Holiday Services

Christmas Eve Service, Dec. 24th, 7:00 P. M.

Christmas Morning Worship, 10:15.

New Year's Morning Worship, 10:15.

We invite you to worship our Lord and Savior during the season of His birth.

Methodist Church Notes

W. H. Loyd, pastor.

MYF Christmas party Saturday at 7:00, at the church.

Church School—10:00. Harold Smith, Supt.

Christmas Worship Service—11:00.

Christmas program on Christmas Eve—7:00.

LONGVIEW

MYF, Broadlands, Saturday night—7:00.

Christmas Worship—10:00. Church School—11:00.

Community program Christmas Eve at the High School.

Evangelical United Brethren Church

W. M. Robinson, Pastor

10:00—Sunday School. No service.

Dec. 24—Christmas program. Otterbein Home offering.

LONGVIEW

10:00—Sunday School. Otterbein Home offering.

11:00—Divine worship. 7:30—Evangelistic service.

Place your news items in our mail box, please.

Harry Neal Rites At Methodist Church

Funeral services for Harry Neal were held at the local Methodist church at 1:30 o'clock on Sunday afternoon, with Rev. W. H. Lloyd officiating.

A quartet composed of Mesdames Fred Messman and Forrest Dicks, Messrs. Oscar Witt and Charles A. Smith sang, "No Night There," and "Sometime We'll Understand," with Mrs. George Cook accompanying at the piano.

Pallbearers were Messrs. Fred Messman, Wm. Rothermel, Clarence Kilian, Wm. Seider, Russell Potter, Russell Astell.

Burial was in Fairfield cemetery, south of Broadlands, with Dicks Bros. funeral home in charge.

Harry Smith Neal died suddenly of a heart attack on his birthday, Wednesday, Dec. 10, 1947, about 11 p. m., in Chicago.

Harry, son of Mrs. Anna Neal and the late James W. Neal, was born in Champaign, on Dec. 10, 1894. At an early age he moved with his parents to a farm near Broadlands. He attended the Broadlands schools and later farmed. For a number of years he did bridge construction work in many cities, spending most of the time working out of Detroit, Mich. For the past twenty years he has been a stationary engineer and electrician in Gary, Ind., and Chicago.

He is survived by his mother; two sisters, Mrs. Mildred Ward of Bellflower; Mrs. Gladys Walker, at home; and one brother, Walter Neal, at home; also one nephew, Mark Walker, jr., and other relatives.

Mrs. Nancy Hurst Is Hostess to W. G. Class

The Wesleyan Guild class of the Methodist church met Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Nancy Hurst.

Mrs. Ella Miller, president, led the devotions, and Mrs. Hurst led the singing.

A gift exchange was enjoyed. Members present were Mesdames Neva Monroe, Jewell Noblitt, Helen Dalzell, Bertha Cook, Pearl Dewitt, Myrle Block, Isabel Dicks, Ida Messman, Helen Ward, Joyce Peterson, Ella Miller, Nancy Hurst; and Miss Corene Taylor.

Refreshments of sandwiches, jello, cookies and coffee were served.

Allerton Mail Carrier To Retire in January

Allerton—T. J. Stickrod, who was the first person to carry a rural mail run from the Allerton postoffice, will retire at the end of January after almost 31 consecutive years of federal service.

Stickrod began carrying the mail over 25 miles of unimproved roads and the route has increased to 34 miles. He also serves as Allerton correspondent for the News-Gazette.

Automobile Runs Over Man Cranking It

Lincoln, Dec. 17—Strowther Skelton, 26, Middletown, died here yesterday of injuries received when the car he was cranking started and ran over him.

A small classified ad will sell that article you no longer have any use for.



Illinois State Capitol News

The November production of the shipping coal mines of Illinois was 5,038,107 tons, about 7% less than the 5,450,705 tons in October, according to the monthly report of Thomas Moses, state director of mines and minerals. The November output came from 24 strip mines employing 3,537 men and producing 1,376,334 tons, and from 66 shaft mines employing 20,578 men and hoisting 3,661,773 tons.

During the first week of December, 389 cases of measles were reported in Illinois, according to the state department of public health. Department officials say this is a large number for this time of year, and an indication pointing to the possibility of an epidemic of measles later in the winter or early spring. The disease usually reaches its peak of prevalence in March or April.

On Monday morning, Dec. 22, Governor and Mrs. Dwight H. Green and their daughters, Nancy and Gloria, will be hosts to the children of Springfield and vicinity at a Christmas party in the state armory at Springfield.

Five thousand or more children usually attend this annual party, which in years past has taxed the combined capacity of Springfield's theatres. The armory seats about 5,400 persons.

Music by the Springfield high school band, a professional vaudeville show, and candy and other treats will feature the entertainment.

Tonnage moved over the Illinois waterway this year is breaking all former records. A report by Col. Wendell P. Trower, Chicago district army engineer, shows that waterway freight up to Dec. 1 totals 8,609,449 tons, a quantity which would fill more than 3,400 freight trains carrying 2,500 tons each. The previous high mark in waterway freight was set in 1944, when 7,803,578 tons were shipped.

Beginning this week, and continuing until next Feb. 15, from two to four boats, with plows and barges for ice breaking, will be operated up and down the Illinois waterway to keep navigation open throughout the winter.

Coal and petroleum products are the leading commodities on the waterway at present.

Longview Independents Basketball Schedule

The Longview Independent basketball team has scheduled games with independent teams of surrounding towns. All games will be played at Longview and each game will start at 8 p. m. Following are the names of the teams and the date on which they will play at Longview:

Monday, Dec. 22—Homer. Wednesday, Jan. 7—Douglas Center.

Wednesday, Jan. 14—Sadorus. Wednesday, Jan. 28—Ogden. Wednesday, Feb. 4—Allerton. Wednesday, Feb. 18—St. Joe.

No Paper Next Week

The News will not publish a paper next week—holiday week.

If you go visiting, entertain relatives or friends during the holidays, we would be pleased to receive such items of news for our first issue of the new year, which will be published Thursday, Jan. 1, 1948.

We wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Eddie Hangs Up A Record

Eddie McCormick hung up a record for other bowlers to shoot at Tuesday night, when Coddington and Rothermel's teams bowled. He bowled 196, 193 and 225, or a total of 614 pins. Who's next?

Hello World

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Smith, Monday, Dec. 15, at Jarman hospital. He has been named John Charles, and is their second child, their first-born being a daughter.

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank our friends and neighbors for their kindness and sympathy during our recent bereavement in the loss of our son and brother, Harry Neal.

Mrs. Anna Neal and family.

It's A Date

Mrs. Ida Messman will be hostess to the G. T. Club, Tuesday, Dec. 30. Each member bring 25c.

Dear Contributor—When you have any news items for this paper, we kindly ask that you make our Wednesday noon deadline, if possible.

Home Bureau Meets With Mrs. Irene Wiese

The December meeting of the Broadlands Home Bureau unit was held Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Irene Wiese. Mrs. Edith Woolverton was the assistant hostess.

The meeting was opened by the chairman, Mrs. Neva Frick, reading a poem entitled "For Christmas Joy." Christmas carols were sung with Mrs. Ida Messman presiding at the piano.

Mrs. Fern Nonman discussed the music to be used at the meetings.

Mrs. Thelma Clem gave a talk on membership and delinquent dues.

A report was given on 4-H work by Mrs. Teresa Smith.

Mrs. Gwendolyn Schwartz gave the Christmas story.

The major lesson, "Selecting Furniture for the Home Today," was given by Mrs. Fern Nonman.

A "white elephant" gift exchange was enjoyed.

Lovely refreshments of date cake with whipped cream, coffee and candy were served by the hostesses.

The January meeting will be an all day meeting at the home of Mrs. Ruth Henson.

Members present were Mesdames Ruth Henson, Thelma Clem, Eva Walker, Ida Messman, Gwendolyn Schwartz, Fern Nonman, Josephine Kerkhoff, Ruth Gerdes, Freida Kilian, Helen Ward, Dora Green, Neva Frick, Teresa Smith, Lola Kincahon, Tillie Schumacher, Edith Woolverton, Irene Wiese.

Shower Given For Mrs. Fred Peterson

A number of guests were entertained at a miscellaneous shower in the Ev. U. B. Church basement on Friday afternoon of last week in honor of Mrs. Fred Peterson, a recent bride. She received many beautiful gifts.

Lovely refreshments consisting of chicken salad sandwiches, jello fruit salad, cookies and coffee were served by the hostesses.

Mrs. Bud Comer Is Honored on Birthday

A surprise party was given on Friday night, Dec. 12, for Mrs. Bud Comer, the occasion being her birthday anniversary.

Following a pleasant social evening refreshments of ice cream, cake and coffee were served.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Loren Comer, Sidney; Mr. Fay Comer, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Crain and family, Mr. and Mrs. Clint Lookingbill and family, Mr. and Mrs. Don Stutz and family, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Archer and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Comer and family.

Open Bowling

There will be open bowling, instead of league bowling, on Christmas eve and Christmas night, at the local bowling alley. Alley will open each evening at 6.30 o'clock.

Notice To All Children

There will be a Christmas Free Show at the Gem Theatre, Villa Grove, at 10 a. m. on Dec. 24. Don't miss it.

All kinds of pot plants and cut flowers for Christmas.—Cannon Green House, 705 South Spruce, Villa Grove. Phone 137.

I. N. Coolley Rites At Fairfield Tuesday

Brocton—I. N. Coolley, 81, prominent Edgar and Douglas county landowner and grain dealer, died at 3:30 p. m. Friday, Dec. 12, in a hospital at Greenville, Tex., where he was taken after being stricken with a heart attack while en route to Phoenix, Ariz., to spend the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Coolley and her sister, Mrs. Anna Isham, had left Brocton, Tuesday, for Arizona to live at Phoenix with the Coolleys' daughter, Mrs. Carolyn Thompson.

Mr. Coolley owned several grain elevators in this area and was president of the Kansas-Sidell railroad which was abandoned in 1938. He was a member of the Fairfield Presbyterian Church, south of Broadlands, the Oakland Masonic lodge, Edgar chapter of the Royal Arch Masons, Palestine commandery of Knights Templar and the Scottish Rite and consistory at Danville.

He was Edgar county treasurer from 1906 to 1910, member of the Illinois house from 1910 to 1912, and Edgar county Republican chairman for 25 years.

The body arrived in Brocton Sunday evening and was taken to the Coolley home.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday afternoon at the Fairfield Presbyterian Church, with burial in Fairfield cemetery.

Mr. Coolley was born Nov. 1, 1866 on a farm north of Newman, son of James M. and Sarah Wycoff Coolley. He was married on Dec. 3, 1908, to Elizabeth Watkins, and they had lived in Edgar county since 1888.

Surviving are his wife; his daughter, Mrs. Thompson; two sons, I. N., jr., and James M., both of Brocton; two brothers, C. Logan Coolley, of Brookfield; and Sherman Coolley, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Infant Daughter Dies

Longview—Funeral services for Deborah Kay Myers, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Myers, of Longview, were held Saturday afternoon at the Dicks Bros. funeral home in Broadlands. Burial was in Pleasant Ridge cemetery, south of Allerton.

The child was born at 8:55 p. m. Thursday, Dec. 11, at Mercy hospital, Urbana, and died at 7:30 p. m., Friday. Surviving are the parents and all four grandparents.

Reverend Lutz of Philo officiated at the services Saturday.

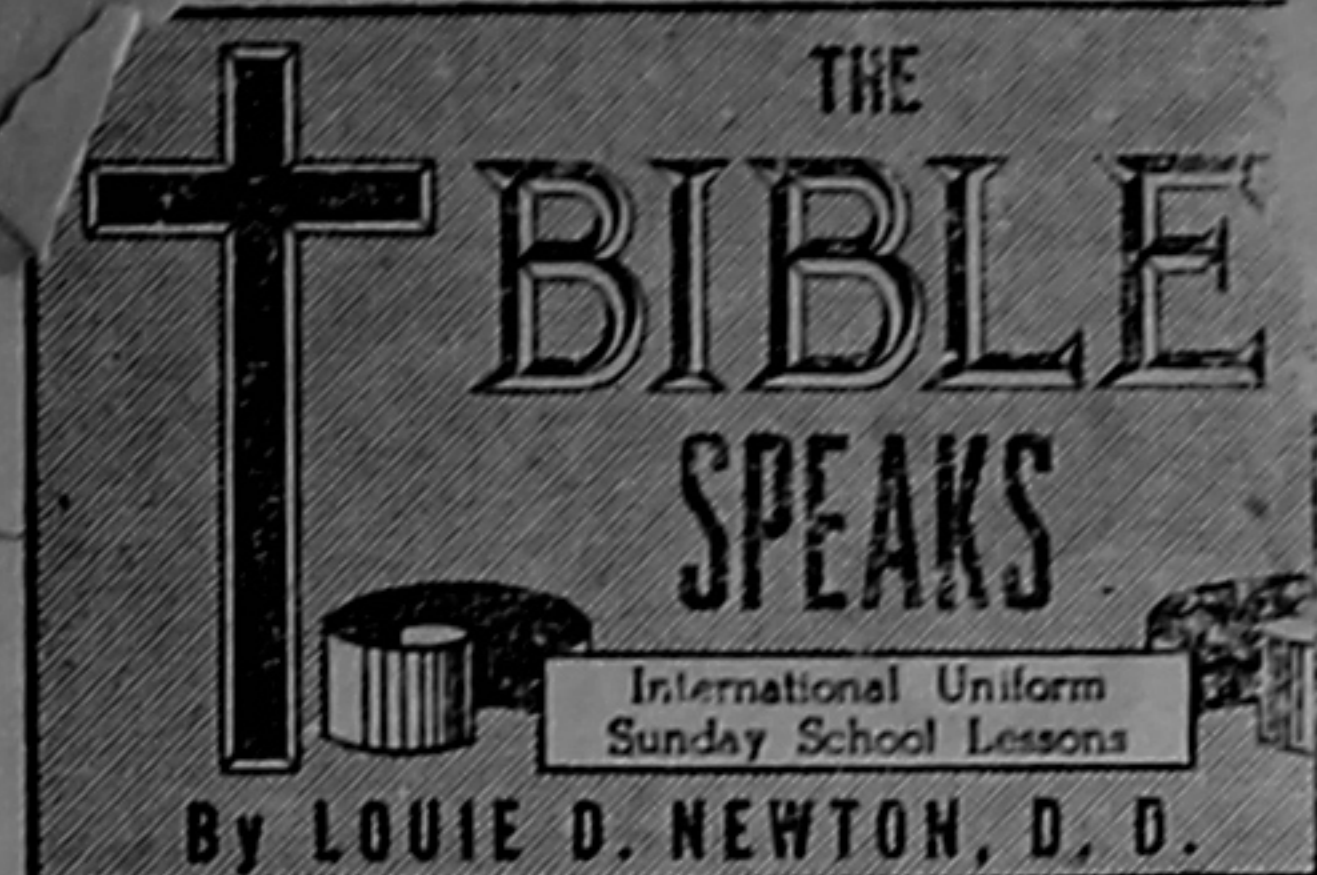
Market Report

Following are the prices offered for grain on Thursday in the local market:

No. 2 yellow beans, new ...\$3.87
No. 2 hard wheat2.85
No. 2 yellow corn, new2.47
No. 2 oats1.20

The News appreciates your news items.





SCRIPTURE: Revelation 8-15; Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20.
DEVOTIONAL READING: Luke 2:8-20.

The Prince of Peace

Lesson for December 21, 1947

IT IS Christmas now that we are all thinking about, and our lesson for Sunday helps us to rightly approach this blessed season of joy and thanksgiving.



Dr. Newton

It is suggested that we read Revelation 8-15, Isaiah 9:2-7, and Luke 2:1-20.

"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace," Isaiah 9:6.

Thus Isaiah sings of the coming Saviour, and in countless hearts this glad refrain will sound and resound as we come on in these waiting hours for Christmas Eve. It is the season of giving, because God made the Best Gift.

The Christmas Story
WE NEVER truly observe Christmas until we live again in the message of John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The Christmas story is the story of God's love. There is not enough goodness in man to produce the Christmas spirit — the true Christmas spirit. Only God could so love, and only God can create within our hearts the proper attitudes to worthily celebrate the birth of the Saviour.

Wisdom is fled from us if we drop down into the lowlands of commercializing the Christmas season by seeking gain for ourselves.

The Greatest Gift
THE gift of Jesus is the greatest gift for the reason that it represents divine giving. Jesus was not forced to give himself. "God commendeth his love towards us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." The gift was but an expression of the love that lay behind the gift.

If God so loved and gave, let us, by his indwelling Spirit, seek so to love and give. Boys and girls will thus find the answer to their desire to make suitable gifts to parents, and parents to children. Friends will thus find the answer to the often perplexing problem of what to buy for exchange with someone whom you suspect will buy something for you.

Perhaps it would be a wholesome thing if we could be delivered from the tyranny of "exchanging things" at Christmas, and be free to give as our hearts prompt us.

The Prince of Peace
THE bold prophecy in Revelation 11:15, which reads: "The kingdom of the world is become the Kingdom of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever," is the lifting thought of this lesson. That is Christmas fulfilled!

How this prophecy challenges our present world of fear and suspicion! Instead of the hysteria which has characterized our nation for months, we should have been strong in the gentleness of God — strong enough to dismiss the thought of pillage by another — gentle enough to drive Communism from the earth.

For let us well remember that the program of the Prince of Peace is not one day out of the year. It is an enduring program of progress among all men of goodwill.

The Song of Triumph
IN VAIN shall we observe another Christmas season if we allow it to come and go without joining in the song of triumph which the angels would ever teach us. There is hope for this bedarkened world. There is a light for every heart. There is a gift for every home. There is a gift for every life.

"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace."

It is, then, the high and holy task of every Sunday school teacher, every parent, every Christian, to sing this song of triumph. Only through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ can burdened, frightened souls catch the cadence of the choiring angels. But we have the promise of God that every seeking soul may have this peace, this poise, this victory.

Permit me, please, to wish for you, and each of you, the blessed experience of the inward happiness of Christmas with Christ.

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THE BROADLANDS NEWS
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J. F. Darnall, Editor & Publisher

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Christmas Lore

Christmas being perhaps the festival most universally observed, it is but natural that many odd customs and superstitions have been connected with its observance in various countries and at different periods.

Just when Christmas first came to be celebrated in commemoration of the birth of Christ is not known, but it is believed to have been some three or four centuries after the period of the Master's ministry.

Previously a number of pagan festivals were observed during the month now known as December, among them being the Roman Saturnalia, the Scandinavian Yule, the winter festival of the heathen Britons, and later the Roman festival of the sun-god Mithra.

Nelson's Encyclopedia states that the latter festival was known as the "Birthday of the Unconquered Sun," and that it was adopted by the Christian Church in the fourth century as the anniversary of Christ's birth. By the fifth century, December 25 had been generally agreed upon as the date for the observance of Christmas. The actual date — or even the year — of Christ's birth is not known with certainty.

Christmas customs in America were transplanted from many lands, some of them from the pagan sources mentioned. The Christmas tree originated in Germany; Santa Claus in an evolution of Holland's St. Nicholas; hanging Christmas stockings is a custom from Belgium and France, and so on.

Early English settlers in the New World did not observe Christmas as a holiday; in fact, the Pilgrim fathers made feasting or abstaining from labor on that day punishable by a fine. By about the year 1700, colonists in a few communities of Massachusetts, Connecticut and Virginia began to celebrate the day with festivities, but the custom of giving Christmas presents was not practiced among them until much later, and the day was not generally recognized as a holiday in New England until 1856.

The modern celebration of Christmas is a curious combination of religion, frivolity, good will, hospitality and commercialism, mingled to an extent not seen during any other season. All contribute to make it the most notable festival of the year.

A Phony Crusade

Another of those 'movements' which have an innocent look, but which are really designed to promote American Communists and their dupes was the "Civil Rights Week," which was scheduled for Dec. 8 to 15. One of its immediate objects is to support a resolution offered in Congress by Rey. Adolph J. Sabath, Illinois Democrat, to abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Last year, Sabath sponsored a so-called 'win-the-peace' conference rally in Washington, largely of Communist origin, and since branded by the House committee as an out-and-out Communist front.

Some inside facts concerning the phony crusade are revealed in a dispatch by Lyle C. Wilson, veteran United Press correspon-

dent in Washington, who said objects of the 'week' included an 'appeal for 1,000,000 sucker signatures to a petition favoring the Sabath resolution.'

One of the leading organizations backing the Sabath resolution is called the Civil Rights Congress, described by Harry Winston, organization secretary of the Communist Party, as a 'major front in our fight to keep Comrade Dennis out of jail.' Dennis is a party official, now out on bond pending an appeal of his court conviction on charges of contempt of Congress.

Sidelights

"If you will let him alone, a skunk will let you alone," says a naturalist. It's a trade.

Never were truer words spoken than: "The amount of sleep required by the average person is about five minutes more."

It's all in the point of view, we suppose, but when a woman's toe sticks out of her shoe, she's fashionable. When a man's toe sticks out, he's a bum.

It is said to be true of old maids—but certainly not with old bachelors—that their distinguishing characteristic is that they begin to feel their oats and corns at the same time. Which reminds us that a single lady of uncertain age was asked what she desired most in a husband—brains, wealth or appearance. With no hesitation, she snapped back: "Appearance, and the sooner the better."

One of these doorbell ringers for a national poll called on Mrs. Jones the other day and asked what she did with herself all day. Carefully thinking for a second, she replied: "I keep the house clean, cook all the meals, wash the dishes, do all the laundry, mend the clothes, and do the marketing." The pollster thanked her and Mrs. Jones peered over his shoulder to see his notation, it read: "Mrs. Jones—Housewife—no occupation."

There is a time-honored saying that "first impressions are deceiving." Although this is not always true, our experience in two recent cases should make us be most careful in coming to definite conclusions. It is pointed out that most mystery films and detective stories capitalize on this fact, and all too often the movie-goer or fiction reader finds himself picking out the villain erroneously from the first plausible situation. But, we suppose, we will never learn that we should not size up a man too hastily. A lot of sourpusses, who leave a sour taste in our mouths upon first acquaintance, prove themselves staunch friends—and often with a real sense of humor.

Household Hints

A little bluing in the soapy water when washing glasses will add sparkle to the glass.

Keep the extra vegetable juices from cooked vegetables in your refrigerator for use in your next soup.

For safety first, use peppermint candy sticks in your candle holders on the Christmas tree, instead of candles.

The addition of one teaspoon of lemon juice to the water in which rice is boiled will help to separate the grains.

Don't set hot glassware on a wet surface or handle with a wet cloth. And don't let glass cooking utensils boil dry.

Locate your light switches in convenient places to avoid accident. Well located switches will also shorten work hours.

Unsafe stairways and steps

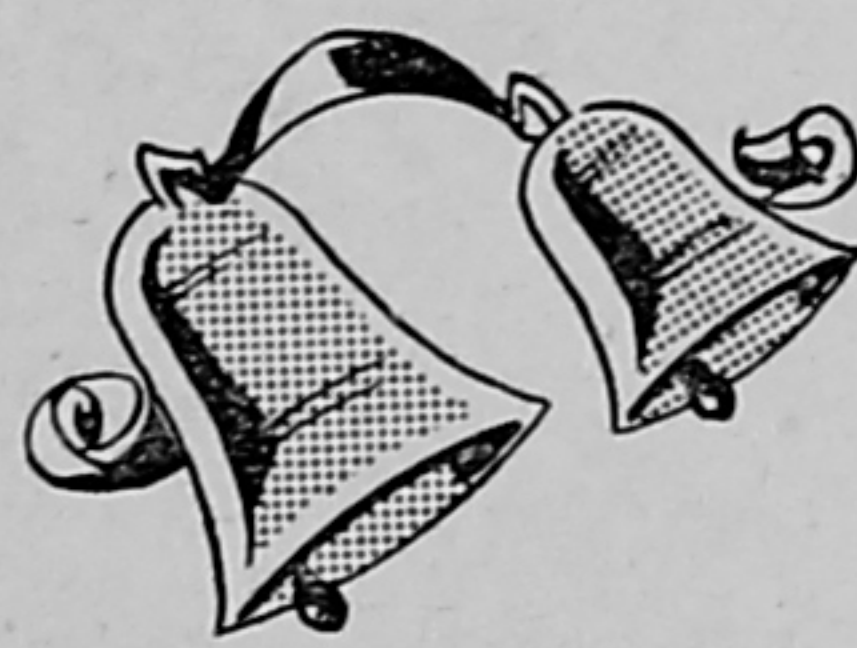
cause more accidents in the home than any other source. Not only do they need to be well lighted, but a railing is needed.

Salt causes meat to become rancid quickly and should not be added to sausage until it is ready to cook. Meats that are already cured do not store well in lockers because of the salt.

When using water to remove fruit, coffee or tea stains, hold the tea kettle high. The added force given to boiling water by pouring from a height of two or three feet makes it more effective in driving out stains.

Dear Contributor—When you have any news items for this paper, we kindly ask that you make our Wednesday noon deadline, if possible.

A small classified ad will sell that article you no longer have any use for.



Merry Christmas
and a
Happy
New Year

Carl Coddington

Thought Up Weights
By 3000 B. C. the Egyptians made small weights out of stone. The Babylonians, the Egyptians, the Greeks and the Romans drew up hundreds of different standard weights to meet their needs.

Loss of Nutritional Value
The use of a pressure cooker has no more effect on the vitamins or nutritional value of foods than ordinary cooking. Naturally, some of the nutritive value is lost when foods are cooked, but this will happen in any type of cooking.

Announcement

DR. H. C. BOWSER announces the opening of his office in Broadlands for the practice of Medicine and Surgery.

Office Hours will be: Evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 o'clock on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; and Saturday Afternoon from 2 to 4.

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BROADLANDS, ILL.



ON Christmas Eve, Nancy hurried breathlessly into her rooming house. Surely the package from home would be there! But Mrs. Groggins, the ugly little landlady, shook her head.

"Nothing," she said. "The mailman went right by this afternoon."

Up in her room Nancy spent a lonesome Christmas Eve. She read awhile to forget her hunger, then went to bed. Next morning it was the destitute Mrs. Wilson who awakened her.

"Merry Christmas, Miss Bell!" she shouted, walking into the room uninvited. Nancy was irritated, momentarily, by this highly painted, shallow creature. But she quickly regained her composure. It was Christmas, after all!

"It was swell of you, dearie, to pay Mrs. Groggins a week's rent in advance last night," Mrs. Wilson said, settling herself into the most comfortable chair. "I don't know what would have happened, because I'm caught a bit short at now and couldn't pay!"



Nancy thought fast.

Nancy said it was all right, that she had been glad to do it, but then she felt hungry and remembered there had been no dinner—and now no breakfast. All because of Mrs. Wilson!

"I was just about to drop out for a bite to eat," her visitor explained, "and seeing you're all alone, I thought you might like to come along."

Nancy remembered the lone 25-cent piece in her purse. "Thank you so kindly, Mrs. Wilson," she answered quickly. "But I'm—I'm not feeling so well this morning. I'll just have a cup of coffee in my room!"

About noon she dressed, for Jim was calling for her at one o'clock. What a ravenous appetite she would have.

But one o'clock passed, and no Jim. Nor at 2 or 3, and Nancy's spirits began to give way. Had he, too, chosen to punish her on Christmas?

Downstairs she heard Mr. and Mrs. Groggins welcoming their guests for the day, and she took a vicarious pleasure from it. She heard the dinner bell, the clatter of dishes as they dined, and then the shuffling of chairs as the well-fed guests retired to the living room. By that time it was five o'clock and Nancy sat by her window, figuratively biting her fingernails. She was almost hysterical with fear, and she began to worry.

At six o'clock she put on her coat and dashed down the stairs, headed she knew not where. Perhaps to find Jim, perhaps merely to escape her room. She reached the entrance, turned the knob and pulled open the door—and there was Jim, just arriving!

Tearfully she threw herself into his arms, shivering from fright. "Oh, Jim!" she cried. "Where have you been?"

"But didn't you get my message?" he asked. "I had to work in the laboratory this afternoon, and telephoned Mrs. Groggins at 12:30!" His brow was furrowed.

Just then there was a voice behind them. "Miss Bell!" It was Mrs. Groggins. "A message for you. It came just before dinner, but then our guests arrived and I didn't get around to bringing it up."

Nancy took the slip from her hand, wiping away a tear. She heard Jim cursing.

"Let's get out of here, honey," he said, quietly.

A short time later they were dining by candlelight while a string ensemble played soft Christmas music in the background. Jim looked up from his coffee and smiled, then reached into his pocket.

"There was a big package on your desk at the office," he said. "It came today. From your folks, I guess. Too big to carry with me, but maybe this will take its place."

He reached for her left hand, then for the second finger, and at its tip he poised a diamond ring. Then he looked at her, asking assent.

"Yes, darling," she said softly. "It's the merriest Christmas ever!"

Smile Awhile

The best thing you can save for your old age is your health.

Approve not of him who commends all you say.

A husband is a plaster that cures all the ills of girlhood.

Wisdom is knowing when to speak your mind and when to mind your speech.

Budget your time carefully. It is the only thing you can't replace.

My girl friend is a twin. How do you tell them apart? Her brother's taller.

The "New Look" is making it easier for men to hide behind women's skirts.

Every man has three characters—that which he exhibits, that which he has, and that which he thinks he has.

How does that clock go that you won at the bazaar? Swell! It does an hour in fifty minutes.

Too bad Jim and his girl are not good enough for each other. What makes you say that? I've just been talking to both their parents.

I hope you're not one of those men who goes home and finds fault with the dinner, said Kidder to Groucher.

No, replied Groucher, my wife and I eat at a restaurant where we both can find fault.

Contentment is the state acquired by schooling yourself to be satisfied with what you have, whether you like it or not.

Married men are better listeners than bachelors, according to a well-known orator. Maybe practice does help.

Some of the gifts that are made to good causes, including the church, represent a modern version of fire insurance.

Ling—If you looked at a postage stamp, how could you tell we were never going to lose a war?

Long—I dunno. Ling—Why, because the King is always on the side that's never licked.

Two young women were discussing church affairs when one remarked, "We certainly have a very small congregation."

Yes, replied the other, "it's so small that when the minister says 'Dearly beloved,' I feel like I am receiving a proposal."

Interesting Notes

The Gypsy moth was accidentally introduced into America from Europe in the late 1860's.

The state of Vermont leads all others in the production of maple

syrup and maple sugar.

The scythe, as we know it, was invented by Joseph Jenks, a 17th century Massachusetts edge-tool maker.

Peter Jackson, a colored fighter, fought Gentleman Jim Corbett to a draw in 61 rounds at San Francisco in 1891.

The American Legion Auxiliary conducted 153 schools during 1946-47 to train its volunteer hospital workers.

The world's first dean of men was Thomas Arkle Clark, appointed at the University of Illinois in 1901.

Labor day in the United States

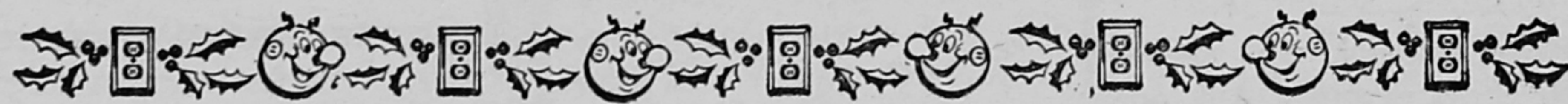
Merry Christmas!



To the patrons whom it has been our pleasure to serve we extend our best wishes for 1948.

We only hope your dealings with us have been as pleasant to you as they have been to us, and that during 1948 it may again be our good fortune to serve you.

J. C. Shahan & Son
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LETTER
to
Christmas

"Wonderful weather for Christmas!" Timothy Rowan thought as he tramped home through the snow with an armful of mail from the post office.

But he was apprehensive, for in the bundle was a letter from Caroline, his daughter. Why, he kept asking, would Caroline be writing now, the day before Christmas, unless to tell her parents that she wouldn't be home for the holidays?

Noisily he stamped the snow from his overshoes on the back porch, then walked into the kitchen which was savory with the odor of his wife Rachel's Christmas cooking. Then, as Rachel approached, the bundle of letters he had placed on the table, Timothy found himself shrinking from the room, fearful of how Rachel would take the news.

No Caroline for Christmas! Why, never once in her 24 years had Caroline been away. But, then, she was building her own life in the city, now—new friends, new interests. And spending the holidays with two old parents was probably pretty dull.

But how would Rachel take it? If only someone, anyone, would spend Christmas with them to relieve the loneliness! Well, how about young Tom Wakefield, with whom Caroline had once been in love, a fine young chap who didn't have a home, and who probably would miss Caroline this Christmas as much as he and Rachel would? A few minutes later Timothy was tramping downtown through the snow again, and into Tom Wakefield's garage.

"Merry Christmas, Tom!" he shouted, walking into the small office.

"Same to you, Mr. Stone!" cried Tom. "What can I do for you?"

"Well, Tom," Timothy began, "you can make a couple of old people pretty happy if you'll come to dinner with us tomorrow. You see—I don't expect Caroline will be coming and, well, it would be nice if you'd join us."

"Gosh, thanks Mr. Stone!" Tom answered. He turned red, then pale. "I'll be there!"

Back home, Timothy was reprimanded. "Well, Mr. Stone, where have you been, leaving me all alone with this news about Caroline?" Rachel's eyes sparkled.

"I know, darling," Timothy said, "it's too bad she can't be here for Christmas, but I've asked Tom Wakefield to join us. It'll be kind of nice having him, remembering how he and Caroline used to be so close. You know, I think that boy is still in love with her—"



Timothy found himself shrinking from the room.

Mrs. Stone smiled. "Well, we'd better get busy, since company's coming. Fix a fire in the hearth, will you?" And as Timothy went off on his errand, her eyes followed him, smiling.

The Stone household was a busy place Christmas morning. While Timothy tended his stock and poultry, Rachel fixed the turkey, set the table and then went upstairs to dress. And shortly after noon Tom Wakefield arrived, handsome young Tom, and the three of them sat down in the living room before the fire for a short visit before dinner.

Then an automobile horn blared out front, and Timothy ran to the window.

"It's Caroline!" he shouted, beside himself. "Rachel, come quick! She must have come in on the noon train!"

Then she burst into the room, lovely Caroline, laughing merrily, tossing her bags on the floor and running to her parents.

Suddenly she saw Tom, standing white and tense beside the fireplace, and momentarily her mouth fell open with surprise.

"Oh, Tom!" she cried. "You here, too? This makes it perfect!" And she ran to his arms, while Rachel drew her puzzled husband into the kitchen.

"You may be a pretty smart man, Timothy," she explained quietly as she lifted the turkey from the oven, "but we fooled you that time! You just assumed, because Caroline wrote the day before Christmas, that she wasn't coming home. What she said in the letter was that she was tired of the city and was coming back to stay."

"Of course," she smiled, "I'll give you credit. Poor Caroline's heart was breaking for Tom, so your inviting him here today makes everything perfect!"

Local and Personal

Place your news items in our mail box, please.

Mr. and Mrs. Jess Ward were Danville visitors Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Watkins moved to Independence, Mo., last Friday, to make their home.

Mrs. Harold Smith and Mrs. Ortha Gore were Danville shoppers Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kilian were supper guests of Mrs. Bertha Kracht on Monday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Henson and Mrs. Ella Maxwell were Danville visitors Tuesday.

Mrs. Bus Baldwin and Mrs. Albert Cummings and sons were Champaign visitors Tuesday.

Miss Marie Witt and Mrs. Emma Darnall were Danville shoppers Monday.

Mrs. Edward Nohren entered Burnham hospital for treatment on Wednesday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Smith entertained a number of relatives at a Christmas dinner Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith have gone to Florida to spend the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Miller left recently for Florida to spend the winter.

The local lightweight grade school basketball team beat Sadorus, 22 to 21, at Sadorus, Thursday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kilian and son have moved to a farm near Kingman, Ind., which they recently purchased.

Margo, small daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Anderson, is home again after being a patient at Carle hospital several days.

Mrs. Stella Morgan of Fairmount spent several days last week with her daughter, Mrs. Lloyd Donley and family.

Miss Rosemary Peterson spent the weekend with her sister, Mrs. Claude Brown and family at Urbana.

Mrs. Bud Comer, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Loren Comer of Sidney, were Paris shoppers, Saturday.

Eighteen friends gathered at the home of Beverly Hurst on Saturday afternoon to celebrate her ninth birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ronk and daughter of Tilton; Mr. and Mrs. Nolan Ronk and children of Longview were Sunday dinner guests of the Kenneth Ronks.

The biggest snowfall of the winter visited this locality last Monday afternoon. And more snow fell Tuesday night, making a total of about three inches.

Those from here attending the turkey dinner given by Villa Grove Post, V. F. W., at Villa Grove, Sunday were Messrs. and Mesdames Merle Crane, O. E. Anderson, J. F. Darnall; Fritz Thode and Clint Lookingbill.

John Bruhn, who has been residing on the Finnegan farm east of Sidney for several years, has purchased a farm of 40 acres near Newman and will move there in the spring. He will have a public sale on January 8.—Sidney Times.

Your purchase of tuberculosis Christmas Seals with the double barred cross, the symbol of tuberculosis associations, will help finance the campaign to prevent tuberculosis and to make your wish come true—"Merrie Christmas and Good Health to each

and all!"

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Williamson have moved from the Zenke farm southeast of town, to the Robert Luedke farm recently vacated by the Skinners. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Ronk of Humboldt have moved to the Zenke Bros. tenant house vacated by the Williamsons.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Seider entertained at a pre-holiday dinner on Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. John Bahlow, Mrs. Lena Seider, Evelyn and Alfred, Mrs. Tena Seider and Emma, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Place, Joy and John, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Biesterfeld and Elvira.

Longview News

(Thelma D. Kraft, Reporter)

Laurence Keefe Jr., had his tonsils removed at Jarman hospital last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dalzell and daughter spent Sunday with the Wm. Lafferty at Urbana.

Mrs. James Beatty underwent a major operation at Mercy hospital on Saturday.

Mrs. Clarence Kraft and Mrs. Chas. Wildman attended the funeral of Mrs. Fred Hayes at Villa Grove on Monday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Farrell Cook and son, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cook of Dayton, Ohio, spent Friday to Sunday with the Floyd Eckertys.

Mr. and Mrs. Montell Siders spent Sunday with the W. V. Bukers and Eddie Siders at Rockville, Ind.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Churchill and daughters, and Miss Lena Churchill were shopping in Danville, Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett DeWitt and son of Newman, Mrs. Reed Hales and son spent Sunday with Mrs. P. E. Mavity.

A son, Stephen Michael, was born Wednesday in Jarman hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Anderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Green and son attended the annual turkey dinner of the VFW at the community building in Villa Grove on Sunday.

Mrs. Ethel Hedrick was hostess to the U. B. Ladies Aid on Wednesday. Gifts were donated for Otterbein home and a grab bag was enjoyed.

Mrs. Wallace Warnes entertained her Sunday School class at a Christmas party Saturday evening with all members present.

Everett Green returned Thursday after attending the annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation held at the Stevens hotel in Chicago.

Mrs. Lula Shaw returned to her home at Crawfordsville, Ind., Friday after several weeks visit with her daughter, Mrs. Leroy Eastin and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur McCarty and daughters of Paris, Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Ray and son of Broadlands spent Sunday in the Joe Chambers home.

Mrs. Wallace Warnes entertained the WSCS Tuesday afternoon. A three course luncheon was served to seventeen members present.

Mrs. Chas. Warnes attended the L. S. L. club meeting Thursday afternoon in the home of Miss Idabelle Fulton at Villa Grove.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Brandon and son of Grayson, Ky., arrived Monday evening to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Dyar.

Urges Caution on Highways During Christmas Season

Governor Dwight H. Green has appealed to the Illinois public for increased care and courtesy on the highways during the Christmas season to check the increasing number of traffic accidents. The Governor's message forms part of a country-wide traffic safety campaign being carried on by the national safety council and numerous other organizations.

Traffic fatalities in Illinois for the first ten months of this year are 1,527, which is three per cent higher than in the corresponding period last year, although the national rate is slightly lower than in 1946.

A study of approximately 9,000 traffic accidents recently made by the state division of highways found that driving at a faster rate than is warranted by light, weather and traffic conditions is the leading cause of motor vehicle accidents in Illinois.

Effective Fire-Barrier Exhaustive tests conducted by the National Bureau of Standards reveal that a wood-lath wall filled with mineral wool insulation will stop the passage of fire for one hour.

Gem Theatre

Villa Grove - Illinois

Thur., Fri., Dec. 18-19

Musical Comedy—Starring Groucho Marx, Carmen Miranda, Steve Cochran, Gloria Jean, Andy Russell, in

Copacabana

Also: Latest 'March of Time'

Saturday, Dec. 20

Double Feature

Exciting Western—In Tricolor—starring Roy Rogers & Trigger, Jane Frazee, Andy Devine, Bob Nolan and the Sons of the Pioneers, in

Springtime

In The Sierras

Also: Mystery—Starring Kent Taylor, Louise Currie, Ann Doran, Larry Blake, in

Second Chance

Mat at 2:00; Eve at 6:30-8:55

Sun., Mon., Dec. 21-22

Musical Comedy—starring Tommy Dorsey, Jimmy Dorsey and their Orchestras, with Janet Blair, Paul Whiteman, William Lundigan, Sara Allgood, in

The Fabulous Dorseys

Also: Color Cartoon and Paramount News. Shows Starting Sunday at 2:00-3:55 5:40-7:30-9:20.

Tues., Wed., Dec. 23-24

A Re-issue of a Grand Picture—starring Walter Pidgeon, Maureen O'Hara, Donald Crisp, Anna Lee, Roddy McDowell, in

How Green

Was My Valley

Thurs., Fri., Dec. 25-26

Your Christmas Holiday Picture—Exciting Jungle Adventures—starring Gregory Peck, Joan Bennett, Robert Preston, Reginald Denny, in

The Macomber Affair



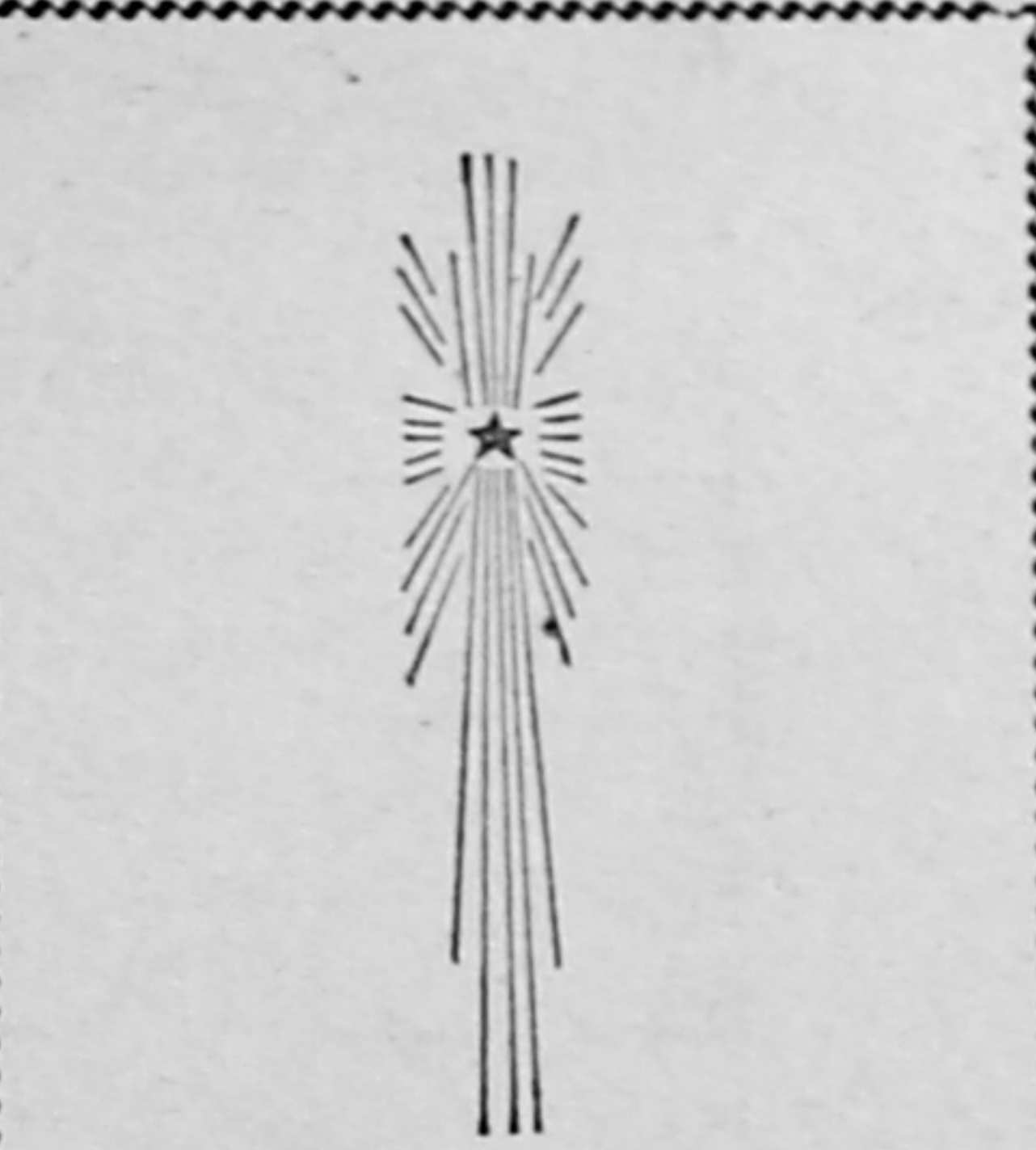
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A star rose in the Eastern sky, 1,947 years ago, to shed its light upon a world enveloped in bitter dark and to guide that world to peace and brotherhood. In every American's heart should be the firm resolve that this light be not dimmed by the bigotry that sets class against class, and creed against creed. It is in this true spirit of Christmas that we wish everyone a very happy Holiday Season.

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Holiday Greetings



We wish for you all those things that will bring happiness and success. And for ourselves we are wishing, and resolving, that we will merit a continuation of the patronage and support accorded in the past.

ROY HURST

PHONE 27

BROADLANDS