

**Don't Let Death Take Your Holiday**

Raleigh—"Don't let death take your holiday!" This pre-Christmas warning by the Department of Motor Vehicles is the kick-off slogan of the December traffic safety program that aims at a happier holiday season for everyone—with fewer traffic accidents and deaths.

"Deaths from motor vehicle accidents both on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are usually two or three times the annual daily average," L. C. Rosser, Motor Vehicles Commissioner, said today.

"During the December holiday season," he pointed out, "traffic deaths usually reach the highest point of the year. The national traffic toll for December of last year was 3,190. In North Carolina alone, 84 persons lost their lives in traffic during December of last year.

Commissioner Rosser said that some of the factors which combine to produce this high death toll include:

1. Reduced visibility because of earlier night fall and more hours of darkness.

2. Inadequate traction because of bad weather, ice and snow.

3. More drinking during the Christmas holidays.

Rosser said that while no special statistics are available on alcohol in relation to Christmas holiday accidents, the 1947 state reports are significant. They showed that almost 19 per cent of the drivers involved in fatal accidents had been drinking, and so had 24 per cent of the adult pedestrians killed in motor vehicle accidents.

Pointing to the severe weather conditions often encountered during the holiday season, Commissioner Rosser urged motorists to check their windshield wipers, defrosters, and lights to be sure they are in good working order. He also recommended using tire chains when the streets are snowy and icy.

The special emphasis program on holiday traffic accidents during December is a part of the continuing safety educational program coordinated by the Department of Motor Vehicles, and sponsored nationally by the National Safety Council.

**LOBBYING**

Approving the suggestion of a thorough probe into lobbying in Congress, President Truman has asked Attorney-General Tom Clark to see whether present laws dealing with lobbyists need strengthening.

**Mail Carriers Walk Many Weary Miles**



**LOADED . . .** A familiar sight on the streets this time of year. He wishes he had Santa's reindeer to help with the load.

Give a thought to the foot-sore mail carrier, who probably trudges more weary miles during Christmas week than does old St. Nick himself.

His mailsack will be even heavier this year than in 1947. Last December, the nation's postal service delivered 5,000,000,000 pieces of mail. They expect to break that record this Christmas.

You can help spare your mail carrier's bunions—and incidentally speed delivery of your own Yuletide letters, Christmas cards, and packages—by heeding the Post Office Department's suggestions:

1. Shop now—get your Christmas mail and packages off as early as possible.

2. Wrap your gifts carefully. Address them plainly—Aunt Susie may be able to decipher your handwriting, but not all postmen carry magnifying glasses and crystal balls. Register valuable letters. Insure valuable packages.

3. Be sure to put the full address on each piece of mail. Include city zone numbers.

4. Send your Christmas cards by first-class mail. Put a three-cent stamp on every Christmas card and seal the envelopes. They are more personal that way, and if your friend has moved, the card will be forwarded. Third-class mail doesn't have that privilege.

5. Remember that Air Mail for letters and Christmas cards is only a nickel, and it will get them to distant points more quickly—especially if you slip up on Suggestion No. 1.



The bell, the world's oldest and simplest musical instrument, is the world's most universal Yuletide symbol. Each nation has its individual symbols of Christmas, but the bell will be found somewhere in the traditions of every one.

Bell authorities claim that Pope Sabinianus gave us the first church bells in 604. The custom has grown until there is no use of church bells so widely known as the ringing of the chimes to herald the advent of the birth of Christ.

In recent years the ancient bell has "grown up" into the carillon, a highly sensitive instrument on which Christmas carols seem to find their most perfect expression.

**Yuletide Thoughts**

Heywood Brown once said, "Christmas is not a date. It is a state of mind."

No man lives today who does not seek, in some way, to follow a guiding star.

It was Christ who, by his voluntary acceptance of the role of servant, has been elevated to the royal purple and seated at God's right hand.

At few, if any, times since Christ was born have all the people of the earth needed faith, trust, and peace as much as they do now.

When we celebrate the birthday of Christ we ought not to think of Him only as a child. Those who think Christmas is only a festival about a child, for children, veer away from facing Him as an adult.

**CHRISTMAS 'PUTZ'**

The Christmas "putz" is a decorative feature in many Bethlehem, Pa., homes during the Yuletide season. It is a representation of the birth of the Christ Child in the stable at Bethlehem in Judea.

The residents of Bethlehem, Pa., follow this custom, which was brought to this country by early Moravian settlers, and spend months arranging the exhibit.

The word "putz" is short for the German "putzen" meaning to arrange or decorate.

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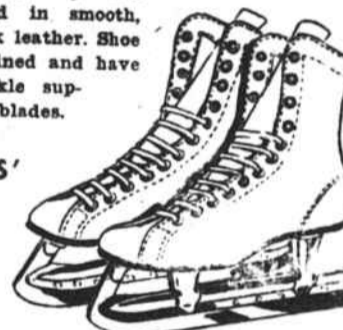
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|------------------------|-------------|
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| WASH PANS              | 39c each    |
| 5 GALLON OIL CANS      | \$1.98      |
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| ELECTRIC WATER HEATERS | \$69.50     |
| XMAS TREE LIGHTS       | \$1.69      |
| ALUMINUM SAUCE PANS    | 79c up      |
| FOOT BALLS             | \$1.89      |
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