

## YES, VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS

(Reprinted From The New York Sun of September 21, 1897)

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of the Sun:

"Dear Editor: I am eight 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?"

"Virginia O'Hanlon."

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible to 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 of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa

Claus. 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 this 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 papa to hire men to watch in 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. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see 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

## Miss Mary Louise Wallace Weds Lieutenant Harold Scheffler In Colorful Ceremony Dec. 18



Miss Mary Louise Wallace, daughter of Mrs. A. B. Wallace and the late Mr. Wallace of Belhaven, and niece of Hector Lupton, in a colorful ceremony in Belhaven Saturday, December 18, became the bride of Lieutenant Harold George Scheffler of Buffalo, N. Y. Lieutenant Scheffler is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Scheffler.

that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may 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 man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it 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 times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

### Complaints Registered About Female Dogs

Police recently have had a number of complaints relative to female

dogs being allowed by their owners to run at large. Several dogs have been killed by police in compliance with a town ordinance, so that owners are urged to see to it that their dogs are confined, thus avoiding the likelihood of having the animals shot.

### Vacant Lot Back Of Stores Cleaned Up

Through the cooperation of the Police and Street Departments, the vacant property back of Hotel Joseph Hewes has undergone a cleaning up. The lot back of the row of stores was littered with paper and other trash, and efforts will be made to keep the place cleaner and in a more tidy condition in the future.

AT FIRST SIGN OF A  
**COLD**  
USE 666  
666 TABLETS, SALVE, NOSE DROPS



IN the absence of those who have dedicated themselves to the task of making this a better world in which to live, we believe it appropriate to particularly remember them in expressing our Christmas greetings. Wherever they may be, whatever they may be doing, it is our sincere wish that they, as well as their loved ones at home, may spend a Christmas of fond memories of happier days. May they know to that a new day of happier associations is dawning and that brighter Christmas seasons are ahead.



The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co.

WITH THE COMING OF THE

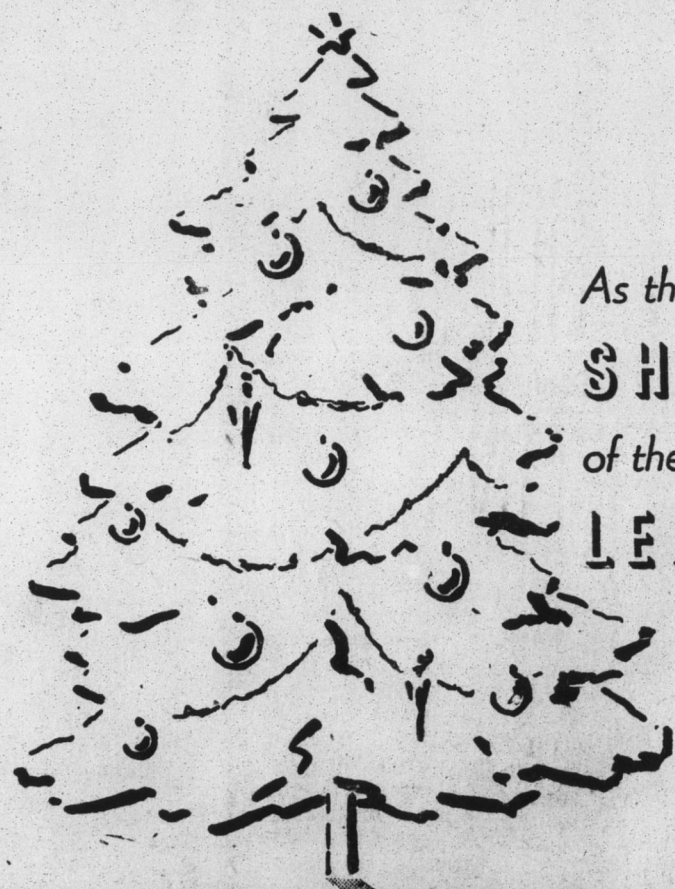
# Christmas Season

The season to which we have been looking forward has arrived and with it the happy experiences of renewing old acquaintances and the opportunity of expressing our feeling of friendship to those whom we serve.

It's not a normal season, to be sure. But it remains for those of us at home to maintain the true spirit of Christmas that those who are in distant points may eventually return to the normal American way of life.

We are proud of the heritage of Christmas and as the season approaches, we extend to you, and to those dear to you, wherever they may be, a Merry, Merry American Christmas.

LEARY BROS. STORAGE COMPANY



As the SHADOWS of the Year LENGTHEN

The Christmas season brings to a close another twelve months during which time all of us have had experiences which we will remember for many days to come. Some of these incidents we will treasure in our hearts. Other experiences we may endeavor to forget, but it is our sincere wish that from the past year we will receive untold benefits which will strengthen us in preparation for the coming year.

And as the shadows fall on the close of the year, we desire to express our Christmas greetings to each of you with whom we have come in contact and to wish for you all the better things that life affords.

THE TEXAS COMPANY

To All  
**AMERICANS**  
And Friends of Americans

Because of the sacrifices of American youths and their willingness to serve, an American Christmas is again possible. Without their efforts Christmas this year would be of small importance.

It is fitting and appropriate that we remember them at this glad season of the year. At the same time remembering our friends here at home who have also made tremendous sacrifices in order that the American way of life may be maintained.

We wish you all the best possible.

HUGHES - HOLTON HARDWARE CO.

Edenton, N. C. Phone 69