

D. C. Catering Business Now Suffering A Slump

By JAN EADS

WASHINGTON — Some of the men behind the scenes at most of the capital social shindigs, say their business has slumped off.

"It's not anywhere near as prosperous as it was in 1954, when we had one of our best years," reports one big catering firm, which supplies Washington hostesses with everything from caviar to cocktail glasses, and from peasant en pinnage to butlers and car-calls.

Avignon Freres, which has been in business 37 years and supplies 90 per cent of the embassies, says even the Russians—who used to give the splashiest wing-dings—are "going very slow" and "don't have much on the books this year."

"Now they make some of the food themselves in the kitchen of the embassy, and all we supply them with is ice cream, petit fours, mints and cookies," a spokesman said.

Avignon Freres says they're not worrying. They're still supplying cocktail party tidbits, tea snacks, luncheons, buffets (seated and standing) and formal dinners. Business will pick up now that the elections are over, they say.

Avignons have two kinds of china, one service with a double gold band, another all of silver, used for the more formal affairs. They have two kinds of glasses, one pure crystal; silver place settings, pure linen table cloths and nap-

Christmas

"And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul"—Genesis 2:7.

There are the words from the book of Genesis which tell of the creation of man. Who can say what meaning they hold?

All evidence of human existence disappears a comparatively small way back along the shadowy corridors of time. Man is a rank newcomer among the multitudinous variety of creatures which inhabit the earth. Despite its apparently late emergence on the scene, the human mind sets man apart from all other life. It holds within its concepts the spiritual center of his being. Its unexplored depths of understanding are the wellspring from which will flow the creative, questing, imaginative ideas that have the power to change the character and face of the world we live in.

That the mind of man could have evolved through some natural process of selection in so short a time seems utterly impossible to many learned students of the subject. Some have called human evolution "explosive" in its rapidity. Perhaps, as some have said, a spiritual force no science can discover created this marvelous mechanism against all the apparent laws of nature. The ability to believe in such a spiritual force is part of the essential nature of all humanity and lends meaning and substance to individual lives, hopes and aspirations.

Once again this Christmas season Christians everywhere will rejoice within their hearts as they commemorate the birth of Him whose teachings of humility, faith, responsibility and love hold the answer to most of the world's problems.

A sublimation of human nature which resulted in fewer actions being motivated by greed, jealousy, and hope of selfish gain would make it mandatory for nations to observe a code of honor in their dealings just as responsible individuals must. It is not too much to believe that the spiritual force that created the marvel of the human mind will show the way to the wisdom and strength necessary to make this a better world—one of peace founded on fair dealing and trust between all peoples.

Making Your Own Yule Decorations Can Be Fun

Make your holiday decorations and you will not only save money, you'll have fun.

A kissing ring for a doorway can be made by covering two embroidery hoops with ribbon or tinsel. Place them at right angles to each

other and add a bell, ball ornament or sprig of mistletoe inside. Attach a bow at the bottom if you wish. Instead of embroidery hoops, you may use can rings painted with gilt or tempera paints.

Evergreen branches can be used in many ways. Have you ever tried covering the wood moulding about a door with them? Or bending a wire coat hanger into a circle and attaching greens to it to form a wreath? You can add ball ornaments or bright cranberries to brighten it a bit.

Then how about decorating your windows and mirrors? Cotton, white spray paint or white paper snowflakes always look pretty. But if there's an artist in your family, why not have him paint a scene of a jolly Santa on a window or mirror with tempera paints?

Most people are using paper napkins for cocktails and buffets as they only cost a penny," an official said. "The linen ones cost 8 to 10 cents to wash and press."

The firm also supplies butlers, dishwashers, chefs, doormen, carriage men, personal maids and even a detective! Formal dinners range from \$12 to \$25 a head for food and service, not including liquors and flowers. At a formal dinner for 40 about 15 people take over to assist the host, including eight butlers with white gloves, two maids, dishwashers, car-calls, a checker.

The cost of a seated dinner depends chiefly on the food. "The price includes an allowance for breakage," says a firm member. "This is very heavy, especially at the Russian parties!"

Legends And Customs Come From All Over The World

Christmas Eve Memory Check

Did You Remember . . .

. . . to take home a few extra toys? If you are expecting two or three neighborhood small fry to drop in, you can be sure six will show up. And three toys and six children do not enhance "Peace on Earth."

Did You Remember . . .

. . . to check the Christmas tree lights? Not day before yesterday. Not last week. We mean right now. A few stores are still open and you can supply new ones. Better pick up a few more ornaments too.

Did You Remember . . .

. . . that you told all those people to drop in for refreshment tonight? Better check on the cake, cookies, soft drinks, and other goodies.

Did You Remember . . .

. . . those last minute Christmas cards? If not, you can send telegrams to friends too far away for cards to reach them by December 25. You can even have a messenger call at your house while the guests you invited in for snacks are there, and probably everybody will remember someone far away who should have a Christmas greeting.

Did You Remember . . .

. . . to hang some kind of Christmas decoration outside the house, so passing strangers may enjoy some of the Christmas glow that is in your home and reflect it around your town? Remember, everyone has a part in this Christmas cheer, not just your small circle, and the more cheer you scatter, the more you will gather.

Nearly half of the foreign students in the United States come here on their family's funds. The remainder receive financial assistance from private organizations in the United States. About ten per cent receive aid from United States and foreign governments.

Many Christmas legends and customs are part of the folklore of our ancestors in all parts of the world. Many of them, too, are a mixture of early Christian and pagan observances which time and Christianity have given new meaning.

Santa Claus, our American giver of gifts, is little known elsewhere in the world. In Eastern and Southern Europe, it is the Wise Men who arrive bringing gifts. In Hungary the gifts come from the Angels, in Poland from the stars, in Greece, St. Basil is the gift-bearing patron saint.

Popular tradition has it that the candle we place in our windows at Christmas is a custom originated by early Christians to whom the candle represented the star that guided the Wise Men to the stable at Bethlehem. One interesting legend tells of a shoemaker who, though poor, always placed a candle in his window at night to guide weary travelers, and so inspired the villagers that soon each window contained a lighted candle.

The holly bush, long associated with Christmas, and with many legends was once called the holy-bush, because in its natural state the berries ripen at Christmas time.

The Wassail bowl, which today is Christmas punch, is said to have come to us from the ancient Saxons. Wassail was a word of greeting which meant literally, "What Hails?" or "How fare you?"

At Christmas time, traditions of the Old World live again. Pinatatas, doves and festival straw chains from South Europe; wheat sheaves, paper and carved wood from Scandinavian countries; angels, stars, Czechoslovakian bells and gold German stars are all bits of Old World charm that we re-create in our homes.

The Nizam of Hyderabad, last of India's ruling princes, uses an emerald the size of his fist as a paperweight.

The District of Columbia has only 35 miles of railway line.

Polygamy is legal in British Togoland, Africa, but not generally practiced. There are a few women chiefs.




THE MERRIEST Merry Christmas

Off-repeated but sincere
Is our Christmas wish to you:
An abundance of good cheer
To last the whole year thru.


WAYNESVILLE
RADIO & TV
SERVICE
116 Miller Street

Joyous Christmas



May the joy and love that glorified the night of His birth shine in your heart this Christmas day, and all the days to come.


JONES MARKET
518 Boyd Ave.



As it came upon a midnight clear, may the joy of Christmas shine anew in your heart, and its abundant graces enrich your days throughout the coming year.

TURNER'S STORE

MAIN STREET WAYNESVILLE



With sincere appreciation of your patronage and friendship, we are happy to wish you every joy of the Holiday Season.

INDUSTRIAL CLEANERS

119 Main Hazelwood



To our many friends both old and new, we wish the joys of the season in fullest measure. May your holidays sparkle with the merriment of good times and good cheer, and glow with the radiance of warm friendships, family and home.

Sheppe's

123 Main Street
Strand Theatre Bldg.



Christmas is here again, bringing a sparkle to children's eyes and joy to the hearts of all. May the spirit of the season enrich your life with its blessings, now and throughout the New Year.

BURNETTE'S PHILLIPS 66 SERVICE

1509 N. Main Waynesville
Ulus Burnette, Owner