

Observe Holiday In Many Ways

The name January is derived from the two-faced god, Janus. He was originally the god of light and day, however, he gradually became the god of the beginning of things.

The beginning of the year was sacred to Janus and a festival in his honor called Agonia was celebrated. At the beginning of any important undertaking his aid and advice was sought.

He was worshipped as the guardian of trade and shipping and he was the inventor of agriculture.

In addition to secular celebrations, many religious denominations hold special services on New Year's Eve from 9 or 10 to 12 o'clock.

The Methodist Episcopal church was the earliest to adopt this cus-



Last day of 1945.

tom and they are called "watch-night services."

In 1944, St. George's Methodist Episcopal church in Philadelphia held its 176th watch night service. The church was founded in 1769 and in 1770 held what has been called the first such services in America. Many other churches are holding such services today.

January 1 is a legal holiday in all of the states and the District of Columbia. It was not until after 1918, however, that the date became a legal holiday in Massachusetts.

With the exception of war time, the date is a legal reason for liberty for the sailor and soldier. Yes, army and navy regulations specifically state this fact.

To quote from the navy regulations: "The first of January—and such other days as may be designated by the President, including the day of national thanksgiving, shall be designated as holidays on board ships of the navy and all naval stations."

New Year's Mimmers Parade Big Event

The Mimmers' Parade on New Year's Eve is to Philadelphia what the Tournament of Roses is to Pasadena—only the Mimmers have a priority on tradition.

The earliest settlers in the vicinity of present-day Philadelphia were English and Swedes. The English cherished the traditional Mummer play "St. George and the Dragon," while the Swedes were fond of masquerading informally on New Year's Eve. The two customs had merged long before the Revolution and it was customary—even among the Quakers—to extend hospitality to the masqueraders or give them a dollop for refreshments.

After the Revolution, George Washington replaced St. George as the central figure of the festivities which continued along the path of spontaneity until 1886 when the parade was sponsored by the Silver Crown New Year's association.

The Municipal administration officially recognized the parade in 1901, and representative citizenry began turning out to watch and participate in the festivities.

The number of organizations sponsoring the parade, the divisions and elaborateness thereof increased through the years. On New Year's Eve in 1939, 12,000 participated in the line of march down Bond street and 200,000 spectators watched the parade which lasted from early evening through the wee hours of the New Year.

COMES OUT FIGHTING



Denish families save their broken crockery — to toss against their enemies' doors on New Year's Eve. The crockery tossed, the towers may not see the fire; they expect to be involved in the struggle. The most popular crockery in the country is a decorated one. New Year's crockery is the most popular.

Society

Mrs. Hamrick Hostess To Fortnighters Club

Mrs. Ladd Hamrick was hostess to members of the Fortnighters club and invited guests yesterday afternoon.

After several progressions of bridge had been played, the hostess served a delicious dessert course.

Those playing besides club members were: Mrs. Carl Mauney, Mrs. Joe Neisler and Mrs. Garlaid Still.

Series Of Dinners Given By Hamricks

Mr. and Mrs. Ladd Hamrick entertained at a series of dinner parties during the week with ten couples attending each.

The centerpiece on the lovely dining table was a silver bowl filled with Christmas balls, birds and grapes. Silver candelabra holding red lighter tapers were placed at either side.

A delicious dinner was served at each of these lovely parties.

Stag Club Reorganizes To Hold Christmas Dance

The Kings Mountain Stag club, bachelor's organization disbanded early in 1942 as Uncle Sam greeted most of the membership with service calls, has been reorganized, and the club will return to its pre-war custom of holding an annual Christmas dance on the evening of December 26, it was announced this week.

It was stated that the Teen-Town Cats, a 10-piece dance orchestra from Gastonia, will play for the dance, which is to be held at the Woman's club.

Prior to the dance, the club will hold a formal banquet at Mountain View Hotel, open only to members and former members of the organization.

(Admission to the dance will be open to the public. Script is \$1.50, tax included.)

John L. Van Dyke Laid To Rest Sunday

John Lewis Van Dyke, 84, died Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 5, at his home near Kings Mountain. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at Concord Baptist church on the Bessemer City - Cherryville highway, with Rev. E. A. Goss officiating, assisted by Rev. E. M. Redding.

Mr. Van Dyke is survived by three sons and one daughter, all of the Kings Mountain section, as follows: Jim, Dave and Robert Van Dyke, and Mrs. Frances Harlow. He also leaves 14 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Social Club Holds First Meeting With Mrs. Plonk

Mrs. M. L. Plonk was hostess Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock to members of the Social club at its first meeting since reorganization.

The meeting rooms were lovely with Christmas decorations where the members enjoyed an afternoon of ruck.

The members who have re-enlisted and were present are: Mesdames J. E. Anthony, I. Ben Goforth, R. L. Mauney, D. C. Mauney, C. E. Neisler, L. C. Parsons, W. A. Ridenhour, B. M. Ormand and the hostess, Mrs. Plonk.

Members who were unable to attend this first meeting are Mrs. Mofatt Ware, Mrs. E. A. Harrill, Mrs. O. C. Myers and Mrs. B. S. Neill.

Mrs. Plonk had as invited guests, Mrs. E. A. Shenk, Mrs. M. L. Harmon and Miss Mae Plonk.

The hostess served a delectable salad and a sweet course.

The club will meet each second Tuesday of the month.

Two Choirs Present Christmas Story

The public is cordially invited to the candle-light Christmas carol service to be presented at Central Methodist church Sunday afternoon at five o'clock. The service will feature the music of the Senior Choir of the church and the Boys choir of the city. The program will tell the Christmas story in Biblical readings and music.

The personnel of the Senior choir includes: Mrs. Troy Carpenter, Winifred Fulton, Mrs. M. H. Biser, Avis Mae Warlick, Nancy Suber, Mary Evelyn Goforth, Faye Moss, Mrs. Yates Throneburg, Carolyn Prince, Jackie Falls, I. B. Goforth, Otto Hehn, Hal Olive, Jack Prince, B. S. Peeler, Jr., and Charles Fulton.

Mrs. Aubrey Mauney is the organist and director and Mrs. E. A. Shenk will be at the piano.

The Boys' choir includes Walter Griffin, Reginald Murray, Bobby Goforth, Gene Mauney, Moffatt Ware, Jr., Bobby Mauney, Johnny Clay, Charles Mauney, Jack Still, Paul Mauney, and Johnny Warren.



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