

Our Christmas Tree

You were planted
Just for us,
An evergreen whose greenness
Is a symbol
Of our trust.

From the nursery you came
Just a tree.
But as you took root
In our soil,
And your boughs thickened and
shaped
In a spiral point of beauty,
We began to watch you grow.

We saw the winter's snow
Hang a mantle of white
Upon your boughs.
We saw the rains of Spring
Fall in crystal drops
Upon your tender limbs.
We saw the summer's sun
Beat down upon you
In merciless heat.
And still you grew,
Fed by the rain and sun.
Nourished by our love and care,
You grew greener in our sight.

But now that it is Christmas
You grow greener
In our hearts
And cast a spell of magic
Around us:

A festive joyous air
Of family celebrations
And good friends everywhere,
Of carolers richly singing,
"Peace on earth, good will to
men."

Of gleeful, merry children
That talk of Santa Claus,
And dream of reindeer on the
roof,
And stockings hung all in a row
To hold the gifts from Santa's
pack.

Yes, you are our Christmas tree:
You are the symbol of everything
That is good here at Ecusta.
The symbol of fellowship
Of one people, with one fixed
idea—unity,
Unchanging, unbroken, and ever-
lasting.

—Kathleen Teague.

WORLDLY GOODS FEW

Soldier Suitor: "With all my worldly goods I thee endow."
Father (sitting in a nearby room listening to the proposal): "There go his barracks bag and fountain pen."

BUY VICTORY BONDS! HELP FIGHT T. B.

MOVIE SCHEDULE For January

Dec. 27 — **TILLIE THE TOILER**—Kay Harris, William Tracy, Marjorie Reynolds.

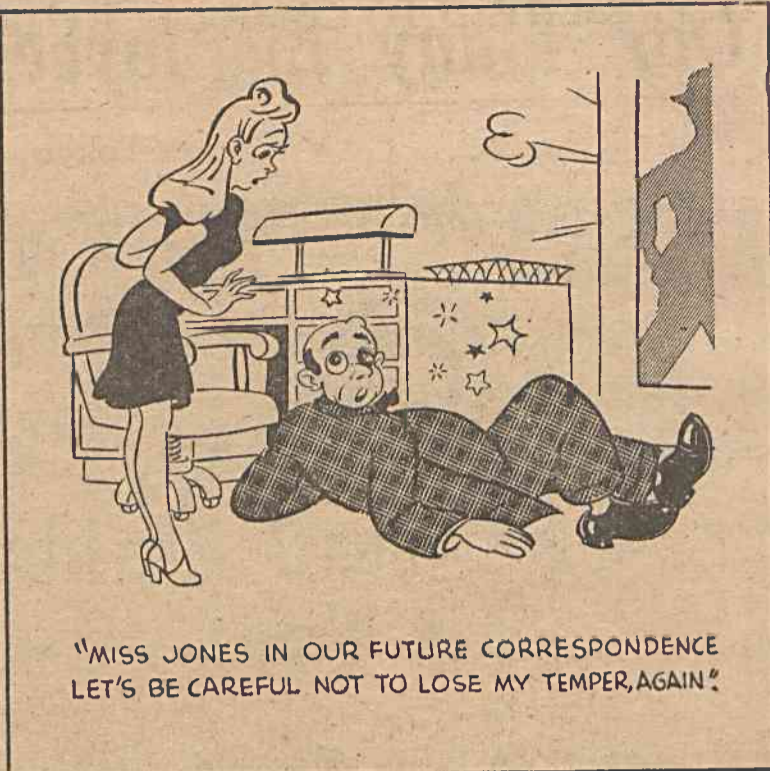
Jan. 3 — **HAT CHECK HONEY**—Leon Erroll, Grace MacDonald.

Jan. 10—**COAST GUARD**—Randolph Scott, Frances Dee, Ralph Bellamy.

Jan. 17—**BOMBARDIER**—Pat O'Brien, Randolph Scott, Anne Shirley.

Jan. 24 — **OUT WEST WITH THE PEPPERS**—Edith Fellows and the Little Peppers.

Jan. 31 — **GOVERNMENT GIRL** — Olivia DeHaviland, Sonny Tufts, Anne Shirley.



"MISS JONES IN OUR FUTURE CORRESPONDENCE LET'S BE CAREFUL NOT TO LOSE MY TEMPER, AGAIN!"

Just For Fun

LIKE EGGS - FRESH AND NEW, YOU BET!

FOND MEMORY

The constant drunk was in the hospital, following an auto accident. For two days he had been unconscious, hovering between life and death. One day the nurse ran excitedly into the doctor's office.

"Oh, Doctor," she said, "I think Number 201 is regaining consciousness at last! He just tried to blow the foam off his medicine."

SHE DOESN'T ANY MORE

How fat she is—
She used to wasn't.
The reason is—
She daily doesn't.

MISSING STEP

Of the sad surprises
There's nothing to compare
With treading in the darkness
On a step that isn't there.

QUICK TRAVEL

"Can you tell me the quickest way to Main street, my boy?" asked the driver of the ramshackle old car.

The boy looked the car over carefully. "Sure," he replied, "take a street car."

USELESS TO GO HOME

Funeral Parlor Attendant (to elderly mourner): "And how old are you?"

Mourner: "Ninety-eight."

Attendant: "Well it will hardly pay you to go home."

LEARNING FAST

"How are you getting along at home while your wife's away?"

"Fine. I've reached the height of efficiency. I can put on my socks from either end."

EVEN SCORE

Joan Davis: "I could tell you the score before the game starts."

Jack Haley: "Nobody can tell the score before the game starts."

Davis: "Well, I can. Nothing to nothing."

A MYSTERY

"I insured my voice," explained the famous singer, "for two hundred thousand dollars!"

"And what," asked the rival, "have you done with the money?"

CHOOSY ABOUT MALES

She's pretty and ambitious and had studied the matrimonial problem to a nicety.

"Yes, I suppose I shall marry eventually," she said, "but the only kind of masculine nuisance that will suit me must be tall and dark with classical features. He must be brave, yet gentle. He must be strong—a lion among men, but a knight among women."

That evening a bow-legged, lath-framed, chinless youth, wearing flannel bags and smoking a cigarette that smelt worst than a burning boot, rattled on the back door and the girl knocked four tumblers and a cutglass dish off the sideboard in her haste to let him in.

BOSS GOT SICK

Employer: "What type of illness caused you to leave your last job?"
Applicant: "My boss got sick of me."

TOPIC NEEDED

A woman wrote to a daily paper from a very lonely rural spot as follows: "My sister and I aren't exactly lonely out here. We have got each other to speak to, but we need another woman to talk about."

BEAUTY PRELUDE

Are the hot wires ready? came a sonorous voice.

Yes, master, they are red hot, was the submissive reply.

Is the oil boiling?

Yes, master, it is fuming.

Is she tied securely?

Yes, master, it is impossible for her to move.

Is the shroud over her?

Yes, master.

All right, then give her the \$3.00 permanent.

A BAFLED PROF.

While waiting for a train, three professors became so engrossed in the solution of a mathematical problem that they failed to notice the arrival of the train. Sighting it just as it was pulling out of the station, they all sprinted for it and two of them caught it. The third professor was standing despondently on the platform, when an optimistic bystander comforted,

Machine Room News

By JOHN GOOLSBY

Well, fellows, to start off with, let me express my sincere wish to all of you everywhere for a Merry Christmas and a most prosperous New Year. Last Christmas we kept hearing that this would be a wonderful Christmas if the war were over and our boys all home. Well, most of them are home and the rest out of danger, so now we can really have a wonderful Christmas.

This month, due to the short deadline, we do not have any births, deaths or marriages. But due to the large amount of news we had in November, nobody can complain.

This story was told to me by a friend of Bill Cagle's. Bill paid \$75 for two rabbit dogs. This is the second year he has had those dogs and he tells me he is very much pleased with his keen judgment in buying them. Up to date they have jumped one rabbit, which he shot at five times and finally broke a leg. Then the rabbit took refuge in a hollow log. After an hour and a half he finally split the log and got the poor crippled rabbit out. Some dogs—some hunter! Bill says, "Your troubles are over, I am here."

Heard from Grover Suttles. Says the fish he catches on the fly rod in the state of Washington are so big you could use our rainbow trout for bait. He looks forward each day for letters from all of us. Let's shoot him a line, what do you say, gang? By the by, he's in the big salmon country.

Tom Evans was in to see us the other day. Trying awfully hard to get out of the service. He happens to have a cook's rating—that perhaps accounts for all those Liberty ships tied up for junk. Good luck, Tom, perhaps congress will do something for you in the near future.

Oh, yes, our bowling team is one game out of first place, and I believe when the next issue of the Echo comes out, in first place will be Spencer Macfie will just about be in his stride then. Look out, fellows! I write facts, not fiction.

Carl Bryson went to feed his two hogs the other morning and he found 21 little baby pigs instead of two. More bacon for Ecusta, folks.

Next month I hope to have the story straightened out on Haskell Heaton and Everett Little—think I have something good for you on those two fellows.

Well, news is scarce, Christmas is close—perhaps over the holidays we can pick up some real stuff. So long.

"Don't feel so badly. Two out of three of you made it and that isn't a bad average."

"But those two men came down to see me off," explained the professor sadly.

WILLING TO GO ALONG

A very small boy was trying to lead a big Saint Bernard up the road.

"Where are you going to take that dog, my little man?" inquired a passerby.

"I'm going to see where he wants to go first," was the breathless reply.

BIG SHOT

"So your husband is one of those big guns of industry."
"Yes, he's been fired several times."