

"A" SHIFT GRAY DEPARTMENT

By RoAnn Peterson

In just a few days, Christmas will be here, and once again everybody will be shopping around for gifts for family and friends. The custom of giving gifts at Christmas time was started by the Wise Men who came from the Far East to present gifts to the Baby Jesus when he was born. And today, I like to think of Christmas as the celebration of the birthday of our Saviour.

Then, there's that fellow who plays a very big part in our Christmas fun because surprise packages to our homes on Christmas morning. That fellow, of course, is Santa Claus. We of the "A" Shift Gray are going to make sure that Santa gets our letter, so we're sending via of The Echo because most everybody reads and enjoys The Echo, even Santa!

Dear Santa!

Mable says would you please talk to the General and have him to cancel those orders that will send Charles to Arabia.

Kathryn wants you to bring her husband, Hicks, home from Korea so they can have Christmas together at home this year.

Lester wants you to give their bowling team a winning streak throughout the rest of the season. (The Gray Loafers would like to put in an order for that also.)

James wants you to make his bed softer and more comfortable while he's sleeping during Christmas vacation time.

Gladys wants to know if you would please put soft bottoms on her walking shoes while she's inspecting and doing that last-minute rush shopping. (Carroll and Allan request the same)

Peggy doesn't want anything but a new car. And, by the way Santa, would you please have her driver's license in the dashboard?

Lucy would like to put in her order for a boy.

Peggy, Buck, Ruby, Willow Mae, Don, Kermit, Bea, Gilbert, Ella Mae, Edna, and I didn't know of anything in particular that we wanted, but be sure and fill our stockings well.

And in signing off, Santa, we all want the spirit that says, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

"B" SHIFT GRAY DEPARTMENT

By Helen Compton & Lois Price

Hello! It's us again. Back from Thanksgiving holidays we were all ready for work. Ginger was sick the first night. She didn't say, but we thought it may have had something to do with the hen she was going to bake. No, seriously — we bet it was very good.

Helen C. went to Washington over the holidays. On her way up she took Carl by Fort Lee, where

he is stationed now. Incidentally, he was home this week-end. A nice surprise for her Birthday.

Ben said he gained ten pounds from his Thanksgiving Dinner. Who can tell?

Doris G. said she spent part of her long week-end in the "hills" of Tennessee.

Our girls bowling team (well we call it a team). Right now we don't have enough to make up one. It's a wonderful sport, once you get interested you never want to stop. Bottom of the League is our standing, but maybe that won't be a permanent position, if we can get a few more interested. How about it girls?

The boys are doing very well. They won two games last week, which got them off the bottom. Good work, we're pulling for you boys.

Maxine went to Asheville last week to buy a new dress, but she didn't find one. She said she saw a pretty red one she liked. Isn't that just like a "Red-Head"?

Everyone is trying to decide just "what" to wear to the supper Mac is giving us. We sure are looking forward to it and know we are going to enjoy it.

Well, it isn't long until Christmas and most of us have the Christmas spirit. We've been asking around trying to find out what everyone wants Santa to bring and get a lot of good answers.

Molly H. wants a new car. Dot C. wants a tall good looking man. Ginger wants a few more car payments. Eunice said she has what she wants! Martha, Helen and Lois would like two more girls to bowl with them. Jimmy wants a wife for Christmas. Bobbie W. wants a red dress trimmed in green. Willa Mae said she wanted her two front teeth. John wants a "high chair" for his long legs. Doris S. wants a new pair of glasses trimmed with orange and black. We can't wait to see them.

But along with all the shopping and spending money, let's not forget the true meaning of Christmas, the Birthday of the Christ Child and to attend the services our church will be having over the Holidays.

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY SECOND

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of the manufacturing total, about 255,000, or 57 per cent, were textile workers.

In 1953 Transylvania County had 3,127 workers with a total of \$10,477,000 in wage payments.

Ecusta employees received about \$9,000,000 in wages in 1953.

*Covered employment refers to employees who are covered by the North Carolina Employment Security Law. In general, the Employment Security Law applies to establishments employing eight or more persons except when such establishments are government agencies or charitable organizations or interstate railroads.