

And a Doll...



Two trusting youngsters all their Christmas desires into their ears. And chances are excellently good that he will heed - he looks completely captivated by the girls.

Christmas Seal Origin Recalled With 1943 Drive

The origin of the Christmas seal was recalled by one of the American Tuberculosis Society at the 36th annual sale got away. In 1903 Einar Holboell, then mail clerk in the post office at Charlottenlund, Denmark, had the idea of a voluntary Christmas greeting cards would benefit the poor. He had permission from the ministry to stamp on post offices for to erect a hospital for tubercular children. Miss Emily P. Bissell of Wilmington, Del., adopted the idea and interested the American Red Cross in the project. The first sale in 1908 brought in \$135,000 and the amount has grown larger year. The sale of seals has 100,000 lives annually among tubercular patients, officials declare. The time of his death in 1927, he was president of the International Tuberculosis association member of the board of directors of the National Tuberculosis Association of Denmark. As a mark of honor to the originator, the Danish government in 1927 bore his picture.

Christmas Poem

Time draws near the birth of Christ; the moon is hid; the night is still; the Christmas bells from hill to hill reverberate in the mist. The voices of four hamlets round, on far and near, on mead and moor, call out and fail, as if a door is shut between me and the sound. The voice four changes on the wind, at now dilate, and now decrease, and good-will, good-will and peace, and good-will, to all mankind. —Tennyson.

Christmas Cribs of World Still Being Preserved

The most famous Bambino in the world is still being preserved in the central European country of Austria. The crib, staged in the streets of Vienna, is carried through the streets by singing children. It is a feature of every home in Europe, where many families are found in churches. The most elaborate Christmas crib in Italy is the celebrated Madonna delle Grazie. After the death of St. Francis' praesepe the Capuchin monks built a 18 feet high, made of Sarcocolla. They had a system of shepherds, flocks, and the Kings, which moved down to manger. The wooden figures carved by Gaggini and Ma-

Capuchin Christmas Dish

has been a long time since the bird was considered the best Christmas. This bird used to be served to gatherings of knights in "merrie olde England," first skinned, with all its intact, roasted, then placed on its skin.

Gift Giving

Gift giving was well established in Northern European tribes when they became converted to Christianity. It was so much of an honor among pagans to give gifts to the gods that men actually fought during the holiday to escape gift-giving.

Christmas Greetings

THE ROANOKE NEWS

ESTABLISHED IN 1866 — SERVING HALIFAX AND NORTH HAMPTON COUNTIES

Seventy-Eighth Year

Published Every Thursday — Weldon, North Carolina

Thursday, Dec. 21, 1944



KEEP FAITH with us by buying WAR BONDS

One Friend To Another...

As good a friend . . . as the good old city knew, or any other good old city, town or borough, in the good old world" — A Christmas Carol.

These words of Charles Dickens express exactly what this newspaper tries to be to the people of this community.

Because it is during the season of Christmas that the strength of friendships is most evident we choose now as the time to express our resolve to continue to be worthy of the friendship you have shown us.

In turn we wish for you the most Merry Christmas you have ever had. Despite the anxiety and worry which the war has brought to many of our homes in the past year, we urge you to remember that the bells of Christmas were ringing long before the warriors of wrong rose up and they will be ringing still when the scars of this generation's conflict are healed and forgotten.

Make faith in such thought your closest companion during this Christmas season.

Let friendship and faith then keynote our Christmas this year.

With such solid foundations our wish for you is certain to become reality—

A Merry Christmas



St. Francis First to Popularize Custom Of Christmas Carols

St. Francis of Assisi is accredited as having been one of the first to popularize the custom of singing carols at Christmastime. He taught the faithful simple and tuneful melodies, and the saying goes that, overjoyed by the success attending his presentation of the first Christmas Crib in 1223, he burst into joyous vocal recitation of the gospel story. Hymns in honor of the nativity were written as early as the 4th century, but these monotonous church chants neither properly nor musically ante-date our modern carols. Experimentation with modal and intervall relationships during the 15th century, together with the folk songs and minstrelsy of the times, made definite contributions to the traditions and popularity of Christmas music. Puritan England forbade public performance of carols; so for a while they traveled "underground" by word of mouth, and "broad sheets," printed annually, served to preserve the texts with a variance of accuracy. When the restoration of English royalty voided the Roundhead Parliament's abolition of Christmas festivities, residents of colonial Boston placed lighted candles in their windows to welcome the Waits who, resuming the Old English tradition, went about the city singing carols on Christmas Eve: "That glorious song of old . . . The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing."

Yule Happiness



A locomotive, railway gun and tank-in-transit—all made of wood—delight the heart of this young man. It was just what he needed for his war games.

RECORDERS COURT NEWS

E. H. Brown, colored of Scotland Neck charged with assault on female nol pros with leave.

Harvey Waters, white of Scotland Neck, charged with assault on his wife was found not guilty and the prosecution was found to be frivolous and malicious and the prosecuting witness was ordered to pay the costs.

Willie Harrell, white of Palmyra Township was found guilty of destroying personal property and was given 8 months on the roads. Junius Dickens, colored of Scotland Neck, charged with giving a bad check, prayer for judgment continued on payment of the costs and the amount of the check.

Thomas Davis, colored of Roanoke Rapids was found guilty of illegal possession of non-tax paid liquor and was given six months on the roads. Notice of appeal to Superior Court given in open court. Appeal bond \$400.00.

James Ivey, colored of Roanoke Rapids plead guilty to possession of a homebrew and prayer for judgment continued on payment of costs and good behavior for two years.

Robert Melton, white of Enfield plead guilty to driving while drunk and was fined \$50.00 and costs. License revoked for 12 months.

Lee Allen Yates, colored of Tillery plead guilty to driving while drunk and was fined \$50.00 and costs. License revoked for 12 months.

James Fleming, colored of Roanoke Rapids was found guilty of assault and judgment suspended on payment of costs.

Lucius Alston, colored of Wood, plead guilty to driving while drunk and was fined \$50 and costs. License revoked for 12 months.

Frank DeVane, colored of Littleton plead guilty to assault and was given eight months on the road.

Decorated

Sgt. Hulon Thurston, whose wife is the former Miss Marjorie Whitley of Halifax, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with three clusters for meritorious service as tail gunner on a Liberator bomber of the Eighth Air Force during attacks on German-held territory. He was sent overseas in June 1944.

'GI' Santa Comes by Jeep



The hard-traveling Jeep will be used by Santa Claus to visit army camps and posts out in the Rocky Mountain region, where even reindeer can't travel. Santa explained that he was merely bumping around the mountains near Camp Carson, Colo., on a pre-yule reconnaissance.

N. C. License Plates For Sale Here

North Carolina state license plates for 1945 are on sale here now at the office of D. C. Johnson and Mr. Johnson will continue to sell them through December and January.

Enfield Teen-Agers To Give Dance

The Teen-Age Club of Enfield is sponsoring a Christmas dance to be given in the Enfield Community House in Enfield Tuesday night December 26th from 9 until 1 o'clock. Music will be furnished by Hal Thurston and his Orchestra. The price of admission will be \$1.50 per couple and 50c for spectators.

Weekly War Rationing Guide

Ration Calendar for Week Ending December 31

Processed Foods--Blue A-8 thru B-2 (Book 4) now valid at 10 points each. Good indefinitely.

Meats and Fats--Red A-8 thru S-5 (Book 4) now valid at 10 points each for use with tokens. Good indefinitely.

Sugar--Sugar stamps No. 30, No. 31, No. 32, No. 33 and No. 34 good indefinitely for five pounds each.

Canning Sugar -- Stamp No. 40 good for five pounds canning sugar until February 28, 1945.

Shoes--Airplane stamps No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 valid indefinitely.

Fuel Oil--Period 4 and 5 coupons from last year and Period 1, 2 and 3 coupons for this season now valid at 10 gallons each.

Gasoline -- A-13 coupons valid through December 21. On December 22 A-14 coupons become valid through March 21.

Rent Control--All persons renting, or offering for rent, any living quarters whatsoever must register each dwelling unit with rent control of ice in their rent area. Persons who feel that they are being overcharged for rents may submit complaints to OPA. Complaint forms are available at the local War Price and Rationing Board if your area does not have a rent control office.

Rationing rules now require that every car owner write his license number and State on all gasoline coupons in his possession.

A. P. Ellis To Return

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Ellis of Weldon have received a letter from their son, Pvt. A. P. Ellis, Jr., stating that he will be sent back to the states at an early date. Pvt. Ellis was severely wounded September 23 in action and has since then been confined to a hospital.

Fred Rabil of Glen Alden, Pa., is the guest of his mother.

A. T. Lawrence MacKirdy of Shaw Field, Sumter, S. C. is the guest of his parents.

County Far Over Top in Bond Sales

\$2,405,161.25 worth of War Bonds have been sold to date in the Sixth War Loan drive in Halifax County, according to an announcement by F. H. Gregory, County Chairman. This far exceeds the \$1,251,000 County quota on all types of bonds, however, the "E" bond sale is lagging with only 80 per cent of the \$151,000 quota sold. The drive for "E" bond sales continues until December 31st.

Daniel W. McDonald

Funeral services were conducted from the residence in Roanoke Rapids this afternoon for Daniel W. McDonald, 80, who died at his home after a short illness. The rites were conducted by the Rev. Johnny Walker, pastor of the Presbyterian Church and burial followed in the Roanoke Rapids cemetery. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Louise Salmon McDonald, two sons, James McDonald of Henderson and Albert McDonald of High Point and seven daughters, Miss Savannah McDonald of Fort Bragg, Mrs. M. F. King of Weldon, Mrs. E. J. Crawley of Wilmington, Mrs. Francis Starke, Mrs. Joe Brown and Mrs. M. C. Graham of Roanoke Rapids and Mrs. N. R. Sanders of Clinton.

Special Service

A special Holy Communion service will be held Sunday evening, December 24th at 8 o'clock at Grace Episcopal Church. Christmas music will be a feature of the service and the pastor is extended a cordial invitation to attend the service.

Promoted

Jack Pope, son of Mrs. H. V. Pope of Weldon, has been promoted to the rank of First Sergeant in the United States Army. Sgt. Pope has been stationed in India for more than a year.

JUNIOR WOMANS CLUB MEETS

The Junior Woman's Club of Weldon held its Christmas meeting on Tuesday, December 12th in the home of Mamie Nash with Mrs. B. M. Richardson and Miss Hazel Neville as joint hostesses. The living room and den were decorated with holly and candles, carrying out a Christmas theme. All business was dispensed with and the program was a Christmas play, "Candle in the Window," read by Mamie Nash. A quartet composed of the Misses "Jac" Johnson, Jane Lassiter, Ella Mae Shirley and Ann Nash sang Christmas Carols. After the program, several games were played. Refreshments of sandwiches, designed as Christmas trees, candy, chicken salad sandwiches and coffee were served by the hostesses.

Local Stores Will Be Closed Two Days Xmas

Wins Wings

Pfc. George R. Gardner, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Gardner of Halifax, Route 1, received his wings as an aerial gunner in the Army Air Forces recently at the Army Airfield, Los Vegas, New Mexico. He is now stationed at Dyersburg, Tenn.

A CHRISTMAS TRADITION

BY EMILY P. BISSELL

The word "tradition" is defined by Webster as a custom that has prevailed, as from one generation to another. Truly, then, the annual Christmas Seal Sale of the National Tuberculosis Association and its affiliated branches is today a tradition.

I remember that when the first Christmas Seal Sale was launched in Wilmington, Del., in 1907, many people thought that financing tuberculosis work by the sale of little pieces of paper less than an inch square would prove in time "just another fad" I always had the greatest faith in its future. But, even to me, its originator in this country, its growth has been phenomenal. Throughout the years I have never been too much concerned about the amount of money to be raised. The goal of that first Christmas Seal Sale in Delaware was three hundred dollars. Three thousand dollars was raised. But that was not the greatest result of the campaign. I will never forget the message Jacob Rits sent me during that historic campaign. He said, "Every one who sees this stamp wants to know what it means. And when they want to know, the fight is won. It is because they do not know a few amazingly simple things that people die of tuberculosis.

Since its beginning, the Christmas Seal has kept faith with its contributors, and as long as it continues to do this, its success is assured. During the past few years, the Christmas Seal has had to meet another challenge, the possibility of a wartime increase in tuberculosis. Already we hear of tremendous gains in tuberculosis deaths in some of the warring countries. We in this country can thank our God that so far this health enemy, as old as war itself, is not getting the upper hand among our people. If this happy situation can be maintained, it will be a wonderful tribute to the organized fight against an enemy that has taken more lives through the ages than all the wars combined.

In 1907 our little group of workers was primarily interested in the serving of lives in our own community. But we soon realized that the Christmas Seal was too big an idea to keep in Delaware. Ten years ago I said the Christmas Seal "is the symbol of coming victory over an already half-conquered enemy." How happy I am to know that today the saving of lives continues in greater and greater numbers. But we must not forget that this enemy we have been fighting for so many years now has been re-armed by its greatest ally--WAR. The thousands of tuberculosis workers, doctors, nurses, public health officials and the millions of contributing citizens must continue to join their forces against this insidious foe. None of us can afford to take a health vacation in these trying times. This nationwide group of efficient and interested people may be called upon for a worldwide vision in the post-war period--just as our little group of workers did in 1907.

Virginia Blount, Seal Sale Publicity Chairman

W. B. Joyner, President of the Weldon Merchants Association, announced yesterday that the stores and other places of business here will observe two days holiday for Christmas. He stated they would remain closed Monday and Tuesday, December 25th and 26th.

It has been announced that stores in Roanoke Rapids plan to close these two days for Christmas.

Each place of business plans to open up ready for business Wednesday morning, December 27th.

Lt. Williams Flies 200 Combat Hours

15th AAF IN ITALY--First Lieutenant Edwin R. Williams, 22, son of Mr. J. L. Williams, 240 Washington St., Roanoke Rapids, N. C., a 15th AAF P-51 Mustang fighter pilot, has passed the 200 hour mark of combat flying over enemy territory.

A veteran of 40 missions against the enemy, Lt. Williams passed the 200 hours figure while participating in a recent heavy bomber escort attacking railroad yards near Munich, Germany. He has been flying combat since July of this year and has flown fighter sweep and high altitude heavy bomber escort missions over Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Romenia and Yugoslavia.

While participating in strafing missions against German controlled supply lines and airdromes in Yugoslavia Lt. Williams destroyed 3 German planes on the Eeka airdrome and one locomotive on the Belgrade - Nis rail line.

He has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement in aerial combat and the Air Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters for meritorious achievement in participating in sustained operational activities against the enemy.

A graduate of the Roanoke Rapids High School, he was enrolled as a student at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, when he entered the service in March 1943. He was awarded his pilot's wings at Spence Field, Moultrie, Ga., on January 7 of this year and left the States for foreign service in June. His wife, Margaret Towe Williams, lives at 511 Roanoke Ave., Roanoke Rapids.

SERVICES

A Christmas Candle Light Vesper Service will be held at the Weldon Methodist Church Sunday evening, December 24, at 6:30 o'clock. The service will include the Christmas story and carol singing by both the choir and the congregation. Mr. Ray Finley of Roanoke Rapids is directing the choir and will take part in the service.

James Willis Rowe

PETERSBURG, Va., Dec. 19--Funeral rites for James Willis Rowe, 39, who died Tuesday of last week at the home of his mother were held on last Thursday at 2:30 P. M. at the residence. Officiating pastors were the Rev. L. Oakley Wilburn of Trinity Methodist Church, and the Rev. J. Ernest Wrenn of Monumental Baptist Church. Burial was in Blandford Cemetery.

Surviving are his mother, Mrs. J. N. Rowe; his wife, Mrs. Franceline Korn Rowe; three children, Jay Willis Rowe, United States Navy; Francine W. Rowe and Mary Paige Rowe, both of Petersburg; one stepson, Ronald T. Ledas, six sisters, Mrs. A. D. Landrum of Petersburg; Mrs. G. C. Conwell of Weldon, N. C.; Mrs. Irma Bland of Petersburg; Mrs. Oscar Kitchen and Mrs. Walter Lyon, both of Portsmouth and Mrs. W. E. Stewart of Norfolk; three brothers, J. H. Rowe of Richmond; Harry B. Rowe of Petersburg and Charles T. Rowe of Portsmouth.