

The Alleghany News

AND STAR-TIMES

The NEWS established February 16, 1940—
The TIMES, 1925 and The STAR, 1889.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
At Sparta, N. C.

THURSDAY, DEC. 6, 1945

ED M. ANDERSON Publisher
JOHN F. REEVES Ass't. Publisher
Miss EMORVETTA REEVES Editor
MRS. ED M. ANDERSON Associate

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR
In County, \$1.50 Outside County, \$2.00

The News is glad to publish letters, not too long, on matters of general interest. But such communications must be accompanied by the real name of the writer, even when they are to be published under a nom de plume.

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Sparta, North Carolina, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

"If the choice were left to me whether to have a free press or a free government, I would choose a free press."—Thomas Jefferson.

Congratulations To The Merchants

This paper wants to take this occasion to congratulate the local merchants on their attractive windows. Many of them have unusual Christmas gift ideas reflected in their displays and these are attracting the public.

It has been said that windows of a store are comparable to the eyes of a person's face. Certainly they attract the public and window shoppers often come inside.

Many people have commented on the windows here this season and have pointed out that they are more attractive than ever before. These window displays not only help the individual stores, but the town as well. Local merchants can be justly proud of their windows. If you do not feel like Christmas, the window scenes will certainly put you in the mood.

Again, we congratulate the merchants on what they are doing for themselves as well as the town.

Buy Victory Bonds Now

As the Christmas season approaches and we are thinking in terms of "Peace on earth good will toward men," let us be so thankful that we have peace that we will invest more liberally than ever before in our government, in Victory Bonds.

For while war has ceased we must pay for the maintenance of peace, good will toward men. Never in history has there been such an opportunity as this to invest in peace. Never in our day have individuals, as a whole, had such a privilege as everyone has today of helping to pay for peace and at the same time invest in the safest security in the world, the United States Government.

Christmas shoppers should remember, too, that when they fail to find what they really want in the way of big gifts, that a bond is acceptable to every member of the family. Employers should also think of this.

For the maintenance of "Peace on earth good will toward men" invest in the gift of gifts, Victory Bonds, NOW.

Hunger And War

General Arnold is concerned with the possibility of space ships—moving outside the earth's atmosphere and capable of launching atomic bomb rockets on any enemy. Prime Minister Atlee proposes to internationalize all scientific developments, including the secret of atomic energy. All of us are interested in universal military training, and seemingly just about evenly divided on this important question. What does this all point to? To the fact that the chief concern of the world's thinkers and

doers today is just this—is the future to be a future of Peace or War?

Far be it from us to hazard a pronouncement as to how to attain world peace, but we feel perfectly free to make one statement and follow it up with a suggestion. The statement is this—well fed people do not make war. The suggestion—that one of the world's biggest jobs today is to get itself well fed.

Immediate post-war measures such as continuation of financial aid are right and proper. We should share our surplus with other peoples who are facing famine. But let us look beyond the emergency. Let's give thought to permanent world peace. The first step in building a peace structure that will endure is to see that the builders—the workers of the world—share in the earth's bounty and abundance.

Certain fortunate sections of the globe are blessed with relative abundance of natural resources. Here, in the United States, for instance. Where these resources are utilized to yield abundance of life's necessities you will find a happy, prosperous and peace-loving people. To assure abundant yields, agriculture, the world's basic industry, must be modernized and mechanized—not still use the tools and techniques of the middle ages, but equipped to produce far and away beyond the small needs of farm producers themselves.

We do not contend that mechanization of agriculture will, in itself, automatically bring about the end of wars. We do contend that it is a vitally important first factor in any plan and program to that end.

Peacetime Patriots

Patriotism runs high during a war, when a people is drawn together by the necessity of meeting a common foe. Then self-interest and prejudices are likely to be at their lowest ebb. Then the positive characteristics of a country stand out in the minds of its citizens, who search for the answer to "What are we fighting for?"

Despite pessimistic reports to the contrary, most servicemen knew why they had taken up arms. In the strain of war, the people on the home front, too, found an answer.

But with the peace signed, comes the real test. When the emotionalism of war is done, and Americans begin picking up the threads of their old existence, will they forget those things they learned during the struggle? Will they find now only their country's negative characteristics? Will they feel their patriotic contributions ill spent in the face of resurging self interest and prejudice?

The Art Of Being Cheerful

The art or perhaps, more aptly said, the habit of being cheerful is something that must be cultivated and developed in most cases. Yet it is one of the most important assets of both social and business life. The other day we noticed some signs in a place of business, which bore this message: "Smile today. Tomorrow you may not be here." Someone there recognized the importance of a smile.

Too many of us are too apt to let our feelings reflect in our attitude and manner. Sometimes it takes great fortitude to smile when we feel like doing anything else except this. In this respect we think of the late Miss Jennie Todd. For nearly two years she was a patient in the Ashe Memorial Hospital and was ill much longer than that. Never did we see her during her illness that she was not smiling and in a cheerful mood. Not only was she cheerful about her own condition, but expressed interest in visitors and was deeply appreciative of any thoughtfulness toward her. Many knew Miss Jennie for other traits of character. We only learned to know her after she became ill and during the many months she was a patient in the hospital. We never saw a person so critically ill and yet so cheerful. (The Skyland Post)

How Our Allies Observed Yule Around Globe

Here at home, the vacant place at the fireside or Christmas dinner table need not mean that the absent one is without friendly participation in the joys of the season. Our millions of American servicemen overseas in occupied countries or other places will find Christmas observed in almost any land in which they find themselves and with a variety of customs that should be refreshing to a visitor.

Our soldiers in the Pacific and Far East will find the climate the strangest part of their Christmas day. For it will be midsummer in most places. On Pacific islands the G.I.s will find a surprising amount of Christmas spirit expressed by the warm-hearted people.

In the Philippines, for example, Christmas is one of the loveliest times of the year and is one of the oldest traditions of the Filipinos, to



Twins will spend Christmas with Allies.

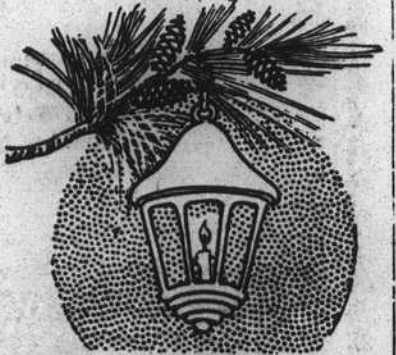
whom Christianity was brought in the 16th century. The celebration starts with morning masses several days before December 25. These are called misa de galle (when the roosters are beginning to crow). Music by violins, tambourines and the organ adds to the impressiveness.

On Christmas Eve the Filipinos fast before the midnight service—a very solemn ceremony in palm-filled and lantern-lit churches. The fast is broken with a Christmas dinner of ham, stuffed chicken, fruits and nuts and hot chocolate. Carol singers go from house to house with a Belen—a reproduction of the Nativity scene and children kiss the hands of their parents for blessings—followed, of course, by gifts. Often the holiday branches are taken from bamboo trees and every home takes pride in its colored lanterns of original patterns.

Firecrackers in China. Yanks in China will find more red firecrackers than are usually found on the Fourth of July in America. They are usually hung in festoons over store counters. No Chinese celebrates anything without firecrackers. The Christian Chinese have learned to love the carols of their new faith, and sing them with Chinese words, as they exchange gifts around the tree. With so many G.I.s in China this year, Christmas will be a major festival.

In India, particularly in the large cities, American boys will find Christmas customs like their own, observed by European residents. In Australia and New Zealand, a white Christmas is unknown, but the customs are the same as in snowy American and English areas. While roast beef, turkey, plum pudding and mince pie are the substantial Christmas dinner much in the English tradition, the meal will be eaten on a warm summer day. Instead of poinsettias and green Christmas wreaths, the holiday blooms "down under" are pure white Christmas lilies, gladioli and delphiniums.

Allied troops still in the Middle East may find themselves near Bethlehem. Last Christmas many American boys from the Mediterranean made pilgrimages to the holy places and many left in that area may plan similar trips this year. If so, they may attend impressive services held by the Eastern Orthodox church or the Latin Christmas, beginning at



9 o'clock on Christmas Eve. The patriarch comes from Jerusalem with a troop of cavalry and ecclesiastic guards in gorgeous array. At the reading of the gospel the people leave the church and follow the clergy along a rock-hewn passage to the grotto of the Nativity. There a waxen image of the infant is laid on the site said to be that of the manger.

In Europe many of our soldiers will worship in some of the oldest cathedrals on the continent. At St. Peter's in Rome, at Notre Dame in Paris and at other historic shrines of Christianity solemn and impressive services will usher in the day.

In Belgium, the Santa Claus part of Christmas will have passed by December 25, for their St. Nicholas Day is 19 days before that date. The old saint rides a white horse in Belgium, instead of driving a reindeer and the children leave hay in their stockings for the horse to eat in return for what the good saint leaves for them.

'Good Will Toward Men'



MILLIONS OF DISPLACED, STARVING, FREEZING AND SICK PEOPLES

Traditions and Customs Are Bequeathed by Ancient World

Early Christians did not celebrate the birthday of Christ. It was not until the Fourth century that December 25 came to be accepted as the presumed anniversary of the great event. In that year Pope Gregory V set this day officially. His intention was partly to absorb the old pagan festival of the returning sun (the winter solstice on December 22) in a Christian feast. A number of pagan celebrations were overlapped in this manner during the first centuries of Christianity.

In Great Britain, for instance, the "Lord of Misrule" led the frolicking, parading, and carol singing. This period of pranks and general foolishness is supposed to have descended from the Saturnalia of pagan Rome. Only a few Britons now follow this jolly old custom.

Nativity Plays.

The Santa Claus tradition represents the combining of a number of widely differing relics of old superstitions and beliefs. The northern Europeans in pre-Christian times believed in a spirit of woods and fields who had to be placated now and then, or he would ruin the harvests. This being was known in Norway as the "Nisse," and by various names in other Scandinavian countries. It is still a custom in rural regions for children to set out porridge and beer on Christmas Eve to please the Nisse. He is merging, however, with the popular figure of Santa Claus.

In Britain the character known as "Father Christmas" is supposed to be a Christian version of this ancient spirit of the fields. The Dutch Sinter Klass, or St. Nicholas, is still recognizable as the good bishop of Myra in Dutch plays, but he too is being absorbed in the more popular version of Santa Claus, the fat, red-coated little man with the big bag of presents. This idea of Santa Claus is a south German interpretation. In other parts of Germany the dispenser of gifts is "Dame Bertha." The custom of hanging up stockings comes from Italy.

Switzerland has developed the custom of parading from house to house and singing carols in a picturesque way. Costumes are remarkable.

Young men and women wear headresses representing houses, ships, mountains, and so forth. Huge sleigh bells tinkle from their waists and shoulders. These Swiss carolers also have a peculiar dance used only on Christmas Eve. In Switzerland, as in other southern European countries, the gifts are brought to good children, not by Santa Claus, but by the Christ Child, who comes from the North Pole in a fairy sleigh.

In many German villages an old man with a small drum marches about the house after the Christmas dinner, leading a procession. His drum is to frighten away any witches who might have come into the house during the year. He finally reaches the last room where the Christmas tree stands, laden with presents.

Mexican Christmas.

Mexican Christmas Eve is a pretty combination of the religious and the festive observance. There is a dance in every village until midnight. At the stroke of twelve the musicians play a mystical sacred melody, and everyone converges in front of the "nacimento," or crib representation. Then the oldest woman present picks up the image of the Christ Child and marches slowly to the church, followed by all the villagers. They enter the church for the midnight mass. When this is over, the dancing and revelry, complete with fireworks, recommences, and lasts until dawn.

Members of the Orthodox Greek church, who cling to the old style calendar, celebrate Christ's birthday on January 6. Many people in Greece, Serbia, Romania and other Balkan states, as well as many Russians, belong to the Orthodox church. Their Christmas feast traditionally begins with a bowl of "kutya," which is a combination of wheat, honey, ground poppy seed and pecans. Mushroom soup, fruit, fish and nuts are also served. A small layer of hay is spread under the table cloth to show humility for Christ's birth in a stable. Polish people also follow this last custom.

So every country and every district often has its own special ways of keeping Christmas. The United States, being composed of people from everywhere, has received customs from every people, and has adopted those it liked, and altered them to fit the American style. So it has been with Santa Claus, the Christmas tree, holly and mistletoe, the Christmas plays and carols, the luscious menus—everything has been gladly taken over, with thanks to the many nations and peoples that have bequeathed them to us.

Soldiers who enlist or reenlist in the Regular Army are granted reenlistment furloughs of from 10-90 days, depending on the length of previous service.

Coastal Bermuda grass is one of the most promising new forage plants for North Carolina. It produces practically no seed and has to be increased by planting stolons.

Recent experiment station studies indicate that careful baking time, followed by prompt serving, is important for saving vitamin C in Irish potatoes. Overbaking results in considerable loss of the vitamin.

One of the chief reasons why adapted hybrid corns outyield the open pollinated varieties is that no barren stalks are found in the hybrid corn.

Wilkes Leader Dies Suddenly

D. J. Carter Succumbs To Heart Attack At His Home Friday Night

North Wilkesboro—Daniel J. Carter, Jr., prominent in church and civic organizations and co-publisher of the Journal-Patriot, died Friday night at his home on Kensington Avenue. He had been in ill health for the past several years.

Born at Burnsville in Yancey county, son of Daniel J. and Ophelia McGimpsey Carter, he would have been 63 years of age had he lived until December 10.

When in early manhood, Mr. Carter entered the printing business, working for several years in Asheville, shortly after coming here in 1911, he opened the Carter Printing Company. In 1917, Mr. Carter established the Wilkes Journal, with Foy A. Vause as co-publisher. Later, this paper was changed to Carter's Weekly, and was edited by Judge Frank Carter of Asheville. In 1924, he sold his interest in the Wilkes Journal to Julius C. Hubbard and continued to operate his printing plant. In 1932, a new corporation was formed here under the name of Carter-Hubbard Publishing Co., of which he was president at the time of his death.

Mr. Carter was a member of the North Wilkesboro Masonic Lodge and also the Royal Arch Chapter, a member of the local lodge of Knights of Pythias, chairman of the city board of education, and elder in the First Presbyterian Church, past president and member of the Kiwanis Club. For many years he was a director in the North Wilkesboro Building and Loan Association, and also a member of the advisory board of the proposed Y. M. C. A.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Hattie Lewis Carter; one daughter, Mrs. Jane Carter, and two sisters, Misses Cornelia and Ophelia Carter of Charlotte.

Funeral service was held at the First Presbyterian Church, Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The pastor, Rev. Watt Cooper, assisted by Rev. Louis J. Yelanjian, were in charge. Burial followed in Greenwood Cemetery. Active pallbearers were elders of the church.

Before 1935 most soybean oil was used in soaps, paints, and varnishes. Today it finds a wide variety of uses but largely for edible products.

Classified Ads

FOR SALE: '33 Pontiac with five good tires. First class condition. Fred Tedder, People's Store, Highway 21, Sparta, N. C. 12-6-1tp

WANTED—Married man to operate service station on commission basis. Good opportunity for the right man. If you drink, the open pollinated varieties, don't apply. Address No. 10, Alleghany News, Sparta, N. C. 11-4-1tp

BOONE TOBACCO MARKET OPENS

(Continued from Page 1)
check the day he brings his tobacco," Mr. Coleman pointed out.

With the completion of a new warehouse this summer, the warehouses now have more floor space than last year. The warehouses have full sets of buyers.

S. C. Eggers, postmaster Watauga man, is supervising of sales.

We are pleased over the opening prices and are happy to welcome the farmers of Alleghany and Ashe," Mr. Eggers said.

HONOR VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

(Continued from Page 1)
An outstanding success, the sumptuous dinner included turkey with all the fixings. Members of the Woman's Club assisted in preparing and serving the meal, as their part in the tribute to Alleghany's fighting men.

Those sponsoring the dinner included W. F. Osborne, Jess Moxley, J. A. Higgins, R. F. Crouse, Amos Wagoner, Hardin Bell, D. F. Sturdivant, R. E. Richardson, Jesse Mc Osborne, W. C. Irwin, Glenn Richardson and Walter Irwin.

PUBLIC URGED TO BUY XMAS SEALS

(Continued from Page 1)
while 25 cents goes to the state headquarters for the state hospitals and treatments.

Miss Edwards urged that the public co-operate in the drive and that every one of the 20,000 seals be sold before December 19, when the drive ends.

Mother strawberry plants give much larger yields than June or September runners, tests of the Agricultural Experiment Station show.