

This, That and the Other

BY MRS. THEO. B. DAVIS

On fancy Christmas stationery was a letter to me last week. It started off with remarks about the "wonderful spirit of good will and good cheer" at this time. Then it mentioned the "thrilling invitations" that are presumably coming my way during the holidays and stressed the fact that all these gay dinners and dances will challenge my wardrobe. In turn it challenged me to "greet the holidays glamorously." This I am to do by buying clothes at the store sending me the letter.

Just another good ad gone wrong. It is true that any function out of the ordinary would challenge my wardrobe, which wouldn't even try to fight back. But it is also true that if there's one thing I do not care to do this Christmas, it is to look glamorous, should such a thing be possible.

I haven't a grandchild that doesn't prefer hot biscuit to glamour, and my kitchen offers a sturdy challenge to dresses that might daunt a shop specializing in "gay, exciting" clothes. So Christmas will most probably find me in a big apron over a house-dress, plenty thrilled by the expectation of seeing members of the family coming to dinner.

A special message to friends who have been so thoughtful about sending us cards for Christmas: Every message is appreciated, but the truth is we are saving them all to go over together on Christmas night. I pack them away as they come and am looking forward to the hour when my husband and I sit down by the fire, take each envelope in turn to open, or re-open, and see your names. We shall think lovingly of you and already we are wishing for you all the good that is possible.

Such weather as we've had recently not only reconciles me to cotton stockings, but makes me remember the striped woolen ones I wore when a child. We didn't know we looked funny, because all the other children looked that way, too. But in one way we felt definitely superior to some of our schoolmates. On specially cold days the teacher had us sit close around the big box stove and take off our shoes so that our feet might thoroughly warm without burning our shoes. And to the end of her life my mother was proud of keeping us in stockings whole enough for us not to be ashamed to remove our shoes.

CHURCH NEWS

BAPTIST CHURCH

Services at the Baptist Church, Sunday, Dec. 27:

8:45 Sunday School
11:00 Morning Worship. Sermon topic: "At Our Best"
6:45 Young People meet
7:30 Student Night Program. Our college students who are home for the holidays will have a special program at this hour.

On Thursday night, Dec. 24, at 8:00 o'clock a special service will be held at Wakefield Church. The program is dedicated to men in service and all mothers of those in the armed forces of the country from Wakefield community are urged to attend. All young people are cordially invited.

Call him by his real name, Adolph Schicklegruber.

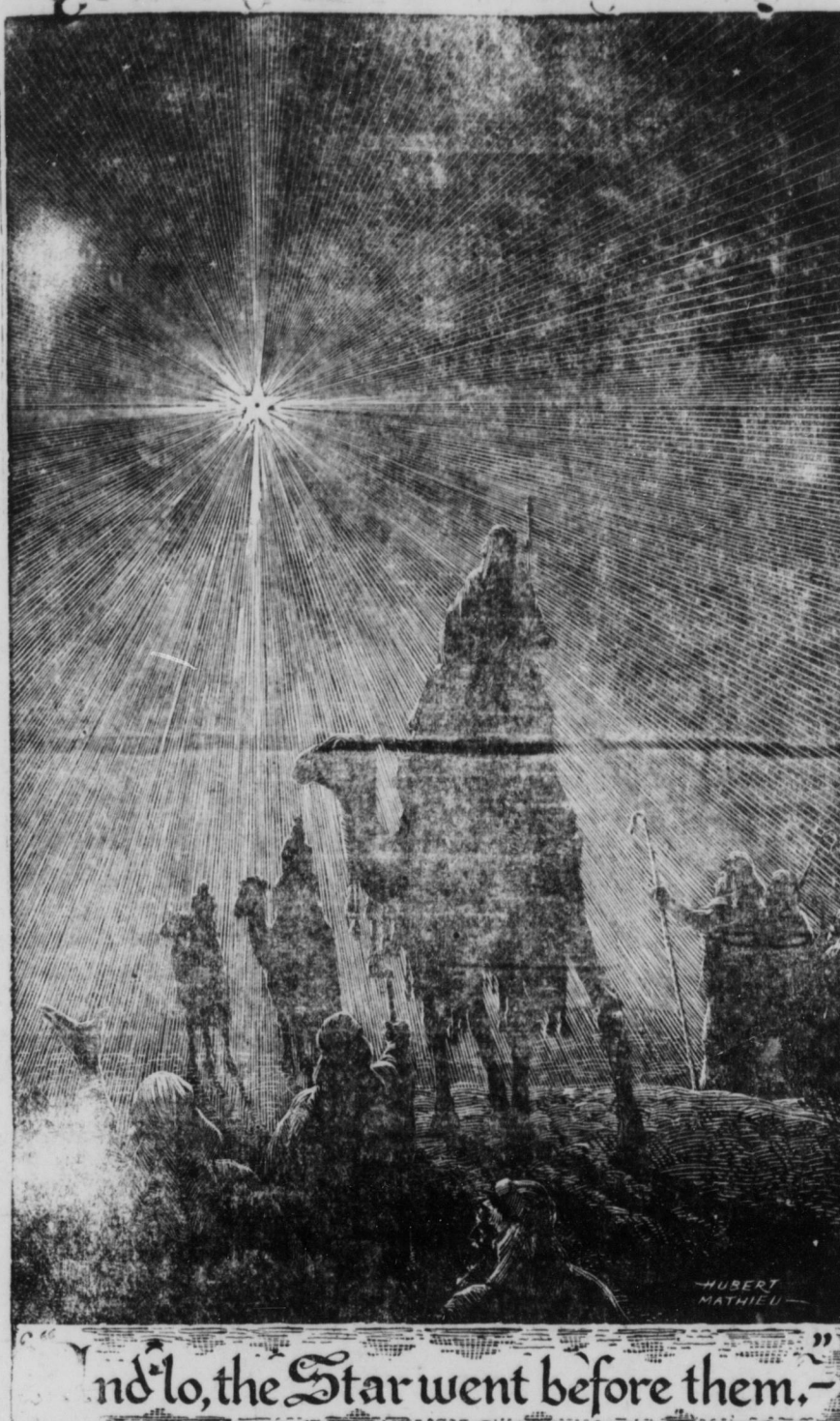
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Christmas-Grace and Peace From God



Words, as someone has said, have wings, but they also have life. Some are like mortar to bricks. A few are very significant and carry their message down through the ages. "Croatan" carved on a tree immortalized an Indian tribe. An inscription on a heathen altar "to the unknown god" gave Paul (Continued on Page Four)

Swashie Swats Christmas Card Publishers

Out in California is abiding a man who is writing a book most folks won't want to honor him for writing. As of this writing that book, to go on and on for 120,000 words, will pass its sixth annum in coming from its originator. I can't think that it can run on and on for 120,000 words and still accomplish what said author plans. But for my part that man can publish all the books similar to his now not in print. I vow not to horn in on his monopoly. Why? That author is writing a book without an "e" in it.

Personally, he certainly has a clear field because I had a heck of a time writing the above paragraph with only one, but 120,000 words,— Wheeeeeew!!

Comes now the time of year when everyone is greeting card conscious. People come hither and go thither looking for something "different".

Do they find it?

No, with a capital NO.

Since eighteen umpity-umph, the greeting card printers, lithographers and engravers have been

selling the American people the same bucket of tripe with only the odor changed.

Now I have a friend, for instance. (For Instance Smith is his full name). This friend sells greeting cards for all occasions including a swell collection of pre-Vichy French post cards, which at present we aren't interested in.

But his line of Christmas cards is really "different".

Dashing madly through his file I come across these "different" legends—

Wishing you much holiday cheer this Christmas.

Number two is much better it states in a different face type—

Wishing you much Christmas Cheer this Holiday Season.

No. 3 is quite subtle—*With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.*

No. 4 is the acme of worded perfection—*To wish you all the joys of Christmas and every happiness in the New Year.*

5. *Greetings of the Season and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year.*

I could go on for etc. and etc., but they are all the same. Nevertheless, no less than 5,000,000 have already been sold this year. Apparently we Americans are suckers for sentiment.

But we like it, and at present are licking the socks off a geezer named Schicklegruber who was trying to change the American way. Incidentally it's nice to note that on the first anniversary of Hitler's being commander-in-chief of the Nazi army, for the first time since he began encroachments, ALL the German armies are on the defensive.

Mrs. Swashie just walked in with a box in her hand which she is handing me— "What is it, dear? Christmas cards? You say these are different? Let's see . . . H-m-m Let's see what they say

To you and yours we wish to say, On this glad Christmas holiday— Merrie CHRISTMAS!

How do I like them? Oh, fine! Here, you mail them out, I'm going back to my padded cell."

Schicklegruber Leads Nazis; Puts Nazis On Defense

This is another in a series of articles written to help RECORD readers keep up with the war.

After a year under the personal supervision of Adolph Schicklegruber, the mighty German war machine has finally succeeded in finding itself on the defensive on all fronts. That, perhaps, is the best news of the week.

Russia claims the killing of thousands of Nazi soldiers, as they do daily. The Russian gains, however, are small, and the Reds are finding it increasingly difficult to penetrate German positions. It is wise to take the Russian claims with a grain of salt, for, while the Russians are undoubtedly doing better than holding their own, their claims appear exaggerated and cover only small sectors of the 2,000 mile front.

Latest Red reports claim that the Russian have completely encircled 22 German divisions in the Stalingrad region in a drive aimed at Rostov.

The Tunisian battle is being held up while both sides strain to reinforce their positions. The Axis at present is believed to have upwards to 25,000 men fully equipped with tanks and planes in Tunisia, and are reinforcing these men by plane at the rate of 8,000 men a week. Allied troop numbers are secret, but the original expeditionary force included some 125,000 men, and these have been reinforced. It should be remembered, however, that these men are spread over North Africa from Dakar to Morocco to Tunisia.

Rommel's hasty retreat across the desert wastes of Libya continues. Advance British units are within 140 miles of the Axis supply port of Tripoli, where it was originally believed that Rommel would make a stand. Now it appears that the German general is attempting to join forces with the Nazi Tunisian army.

The new surprise British offensive in Burma has met no resistance. Now forty miles inside the Burmese border, the British have crossed miles of torturous jungle swamps where any battles are unlikely, although not impossible. American and British planes are bombing the Japs at every opportunity. The Chinese are fighting desperately to stem a Japanese advance north from Burma into the Chinese province of Shan, and it may be that the British drive is an effort to relieve pressure on the Chinese.

The Japanese in the Buna sector of New Guinea are, according to one correspondent, entrenched in concrete pillboxes and foxholes awaiting death. Their position has been likened to that of the Amer-

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Snow May Fall For Christmas

Following the five-inch snow of last week was a light fall on Sunday afternoon which lasted in spots all day Monday. With the snow came the coldest weather of the season, the mercury going down to eight degrees Sunday night. Forecasts are for continued cold.