

**THE PILOT**

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**CHRISTMAS IN ENGLAND**

Christmas!

Picture it without an orange in your stocking, and with but one present.

And your gifts to others limited to gas mask baskets or electric torches.

The Pilot is privileged to publish a letter received from a friend in London by Dr. J. Symington of Carthage, county physician. It tells of Christmas in England:

"For the children's sake this must be a merry Christmas" the London shops are vainly advertising. But the government is discouraging all spending and urges that money be put into war loans. Such gifts as are being purchased consist chiefly of practical things such as shelter equipment so a list of gift suggestions this year may include: paraffin or hurricane lamps, electric torches, picnic sets, folding seats, trench caps, a basket to hold gas masks and matches, or, if you want to be extravagant, gas proof curtains for a friend's "Villa Hitler" as the more pretentious shelters are called.

London still has about 100,000 children and about 200,000 under five. For their sakes the traditional pantomime at the Coliseum will be given, and the B. B. C. has planned a "Christmas Under Fire" programme when evacuees will have a chance to speak to their parents. Travel is discouraged and no extra trains will be run—usually there are 5,000—except for mail, which is expected to be unprecedented because of the millions of homes broken up. Those who have evacuee children will doubtless do all in their power to make it as happy a time as possible under the circumstances, but when all over the country gifts are likely to be limited to about one per person, it is going to be difficult to fill up a stocking with not even the traditional orange to put in the toe. This custom is said to date back to the time when citrus fruits were scarce and looked upon as a great delicacy. Until the war is over it looks as though Britain may have to revert to those days and the orange become as rare and expensive as the avacado pear is with us.

Norfolk turkeys and a few imported from Canada at about 60 cents a pound are scarce, so no turkey dinner this year for most people. The food minister may allow double rations of tea, sugar and vegetables during Christmas, but "sweets" are likely to be almost unobtainable and the traditional plum pudding will no doubt be conspicuous by its absence at most dinner tables the length and breadth of the land. In Scotland Christmas will not even be a holiday, and in England the usual Boxing Day holiday, when for generations it has been the custom to give boxes of "goodies" to the tradespeople, has been canceled.

In September I had a letter from my husband's mother who lives in a beautiful little village called Batcombe in Somerset, about 20 miles from Bristol, in which she said: "We are told to treasure a sheet of paper as though it were a Treasury note—to treasure each envelope—the Public Offices are all using labels." In view of this fact it is hardly likely that there will be any greeting cards this Christmas and gifts will doubtless lack their usual gay wrappings.

**BILLIONS FOR SECURITY**

Life insurance in force in this country recently touched its all-time peak of \$117,500,000,000. And during the first half of 1940, the lapse rate was the lowest ever recorded for a similar period.

That gives you an idea of what the American people think

**THE POCKETBOOK of KNOWLEDGE** BY TOPPS

1927-9% CENTS TO 1941-17% CENTS

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT TAXES ON LIGHT AND POWER COMPANIES HAVE RISEN FROM 9% CENTS IN 1927 ON EACH DOLLAR REVENUE TO 17% CENTS TODAY

MODERN ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT IS 25 MILLION TIMES MORE EFFICIENT THAN THE FIRELY IN ITS METHOD OF PRODUCING LIGHT

UNDERGROUND CITY—FRENCH AND AMERICAN ENGINEERS WHO DREW THEIR CONCEPTS UNDER THE CITY OF PARIS, LIVE IN A SUBTERRANEAN CITY OF THEIR OWN THAT HAS VENTILATING SYSTEMS, STAIRS, LIGHTS AND OTHER MODERN SERVICES WITH MASSIVE RECESSES

BUTLER WAS USED AS A COSMETIC BY WOMEN OF ANCIENT ROME

of the life insurance industry. They regard a life insurance policy as something to be kept at all costs. They won't impair its value by borrowing, or abandon it for its cash value until dire necessity makes that absolutely unavoidable. And on top of that, they steadily increase their ownership of life insurance as rapidly as financial circumstances permit.

This is indicative of two things. First, it shows our desire for earned social security. Second, it shows faith in an institution of outstanding solvency and safety.

**THEORY VS. HARD FACTS**

Economic theory, no matter how finely spun, becomes rubbish when it collides with certain hard facts inherent in human nature. It is a fact, for example, that the average man will not enter upon an undertaking of any nature unless he sees promise of direct benefit to himself, or to someone or something in which he has a vital interest. At this moment, the banks of the nation are suffering from lack of loan demands. Individuals and businesses are not committing themselves to future obligations. You can call it fear, or whatever you wish. But whatever you call it, the fact remains that except for government induced activity, enterprise is not going ahead.

Guy Emerson, vice-president of the Bankers Trust Company, of New York, forcibly pointed out the dangers into which this country has drifted as a result of letting too much theory obscure the dictates of common sense, when he observed: "The inexorable fact will sooner or later become manifest that only a confident, creative, risk-taking business and industrial group will create and maintain the kind of economic America that both business and government want, either now or after the defense era is over."

By using the vast reservoirs of private credit for construction of new armament plants and expansion of heavy industry, we can relieve the growing threat of a crushing public debt. But it will be used only if the private citizen is given some assurance that he can go ahead, borrow money, and proceed with a definite program of expenditure without the handicaps of too many legislative and regulatory penalties which promote loss rather than profit.

Business, if backed by a friendly government, intent on easing the "rough spots" instead of making them rougher, can do a real production job. But as long as it is artificially hampered by inimical officialism maximum production cannot be secured.

Desk Calendars for 1941 at Hayes. Standard Diaries at Hayes.

**THE PASSING YEARS** BY CHARLES MACAULEY  
Second Week of January

**1940**  
Not for many years have the faithful employees of the Carolina Power and Light Company and the Central Carolina Telephone Company had to face such widespread damage to their lines as that caused by the recent ice storm.

Norris L. Hodgkins, cashier of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company since 1935, was elected president of that institution at the annual meeting.

**1936**  
Skiing upon pine needles discussed as new sport here.  
Miss Dorothy Pottle and Miss Lenora Riggan entertain at five tables of bridge at the Hollywood.

**1931**  
Fifth annual Churchmen's dinner in Southern Pines held last Thursday night at the Highland Pines Inn.

Library acquires site for permanent home at May street and Massachusetts avenue.  
Famous explorer to lecture here. Edward Tomlinson comes to Southern Pines.

**1926**  
The Rev. John Lewis, former pastor of the Baptist Church, dies.  
Photographs of the homes of H. J. Betterley and C. M. Ness on Weymouth Heights appear in the January number of Country Life.

Mrs. Helen B. Mullen, former town clerk, came up from Florida for a ten days stay in Southern Pines.

**1921**  
Through the generosity of James Boyd, the Civic Club has come into possession of a great number of benches. They will be soon placed around town at suitable resting points for the convenience and comforts of those who enjoy rambles through the woods.

Miss Bessie Ervin, manager of the Western Union Telegraph office spent the holidays with her family in Cataba county.

**1914**  
Christmas tournament at Country Club. Alfred Grover wins gold medal in qualifying round.

Jackson Springs water was awarded silver medal at St. Louis Exposition in 1894 for its purity and softness and general excellent drinking qualities.—Adv.

**1911**  
Among the newest and most modern of the buildings recently erected by Crain and Newton is the office building of Dr. G. G. Herr, occupied by Dr. Herr, dentist and Dr. E. W. Bush, osteopath.

Alfred Grover wins golf tournament of the season, with Dr. Bush the runner-up.

**1906**  
First annual meeting of the stockholders of the Citizens Bank and

**Grains of Sand**

Why do radio announcers have small hands?

The question troubled us for some time, but it was simple when we figured it out:

"Wee paws for station identification."

Eighty-seven automobile drivers lost their licenses in Moore county during 1940. In the state, the year's toll was 6,065, more than 5,600 of these for driving while drunk.

County law enforcement officers are remarking about the god behavior of the people in Moore county during and since the holidays.

"It was the quietest Christmas I have ever seen," said Officer Charles Dunlap. This is reflected in the Recorder's court, which has been able to complete its work by noon time.

"As our beloved Will Rogers used to write, 'all I know is what I read in the papers.'" writes E. Gschwind, formerly of Vass, from his home in Kansas City, Mo. "It is the only way I have of keeping up with what is happening in the old home town. The Pilot certainly keeps me well informed and I enjoy it very much. Wishing you continued success."

One of Moore county's few remaining slaves, Annie Monroe, 95, was burned to death in her shack near Juniper Lake Monday night when her dress caught fire.

Trust Company was held on January 9th. Deposits, \$54,640; loans, \$34,891; cash on hand and in banks, \$27,082. The old officers and directors were reelected for the coming year.

Junge & Beck report the sale of two fine house lots on Ashe street to Charles J. J. Sadler of Port Jervis, N. Y., who intends to erect a fine dwelling thereon.

**1901**  
J. M. Patch has gone to Cuba to spend a few weeks.

Business commenced in earnest at the gun club Monday, and several of the shooters got 3 out of 5—which is not bad.

The first whist party of the 20th Century was held at the Lasker cottage last Friday.

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DON'T WALK ALL OVER TOWN LOOKING for BARGAINS

**The Big Sale!**

is now on at

**Mrs. Hayes' Shop**

All Fall and Winter Apparel at

**Sacrifice Prices**

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