

### Army Lifts Its Ban On Vows in Germany

FRANKFURT, Germany—(AP)—The United States Army announced recently the lifting—with one reservation—of the ban against the marriages of American soldiers and German girls, and an army spokesman said "German war brides" transport might sail soon for the United States.

Col. George S. Eyster, who announced the removal by Gen. Joseph T. McNaney, European theatre commander, said it probably would become effective within 15 days when details are worked out.

The single reservation, Eyster said, is that the marriages cannot take place until just before an American is to return home.

Eyster said he had no idea how many Americans now in Germany might apply to marry fractions but that he believed "adequate transport would be provided. The army announced only last week that 2,000 American war veterans had applied for permission to have German girls enter the United States to marry them.

The removal of the ban was a complete surprise.

Uruguay is the smallest of the South American republics.

Lima, Peru was founded by Pizarro more than 400 years ago.

### Power Output Rises In Week Ending Dec. 7

Production of electricity in the United States in the week ending Dec. 7 was 4,672,712,000 kilowatt-hours, an increase of 14.1 per cent, compared with output of 4,096,954,000 kilowatt-hours in the week last year, the Edison Electric Institute reports. In the preceding week this year output was 4,448,193,000 kilowatt-hours.

Consolidated Edison Co. of New York reports electric output in the week ended Dec. 8 was 214,000,000 kilowatt-hours, an increase of 10.1 per cent over a year ago. Local distribution was up 3.3 per cent.

### Irish Linen Maybe Permanent War Casualty

NEW YORK—Irish linen may be a permanent war casualty. In pre-war years 90% of the flax used by Northern Ireland in making its world-famous linens came from Russia and countries now under Russian influence. Reports from these producing areas indicate the Soviet is now interested in keeping the flax for cloth-making in Russian factories. Meanwhile, Ireland's own flax production has slumped from the war peak of 19,200 a year to 6,300 this year. Pre-war Ireland's linen industry used 68,000 tons of flax fibre yearly.

### High Finance In Dolls



Candy Kid... She gets top billing in Santa's doll display. Dressed in a candy-striped dress, she arrives equipped with a complete and handsome wardrobe.

Postwar Kewpie... A star of the 1946 doll parade is Rose O'Neill's Kewpie, now back with movable arms and legs, dressed in smart coat, hat and rompers.

Santa, that merry old tycoon, will distribute a total pack of about 40 million dollars worth of dolls this Christmas—a new all-time record even for that big-time operator.

Little girls who for five long years have been longing for a "mama" doll with blue "sleepy eyes" and long yellow curls have created a bumper doll market. The toy-makers have been working overtime trying to supply the demand. Although production now exceeds prewar figures, the pent-up demand is such that woe assistants to Santa will do their doll shopping early.



Postwar dolls are all that lonely little girls have been dreaming about. They present all ages of childhood in realistic miniature. There are dolls modeled from newborn babies, toddlers, kindergartners, the pigtail set and teen-agers. Complete wardrobes are features for each age group, beginning with gorgeous lavettes for baby dolls and including costumes for every social occasion in the life of a glamor girl doll.

The 1946 doll parade has its practical side, too. New dolls not only are beautiful or cuddly, they also are practically unbreakable, have real little girl faces instead of prim grown-up ones, and are equipped with clothes easy for children to take off and put on. There are plastic skins that feel almost like human skin and there are brother-and-sister dolls.

### The Everyday Counselor

—By—  
REV. HERBERT SPAUGH, D. D.

Each year at Christmas time, I carry on a one-man crusade against the word "Xmas." Perhaps I am prejudiced, but I thoroughly dislike the term. To me it is an algebraic expression, and those who remember anything of their algebra, will recall that X is used to represent the unknown quantity. So "Xmas" seems to be a celebration of Christmas with Christ left out.

I am familiar with other explanations which have been given for use of the word, "Xmas." There are those who say that X is one form of the cross, and so used is a symbol of Christ. While it is true that this form of the cross, known as St. Andrew's Cross, was used in ancient times for execution, yet there is no tradition that it was used when our Lord was crucified. Artists portray the well known and familiar type called the Latin or Passion Cross.

There is another explanation that X is the first letter used in the Greek spelling of Christ, but so few people in this country know and understand the Greek language, that its significance is practically lost.

Both these explanations give X as an abbreviation for Christ. Certainly Christmas is no time for abbreviating the name of the One whose birth we are celebrating. Truly on a birthday the name of the celebrant should be mentioned. However, many Christians who bear the name of Christ do considerably abbreviate the time they give to the true observance of Christmas in home and church.

We have allowed enough purely secular things to come into our celebration of Christmas, so that even in Christian homes the Christ

is crowded out. Sometimes He is crowded out by Santa Claus. I am not of the modern school which wishes to abandon the Santa Claus tradition. Certainly he has a place in the home life of our children. He is a symbol of generosity and good-will. But even in the home he should not be allowed to take the place of Christ.

It is more important for children to know "Away In A Manger" and "Silent Night, Holy Night" than it is for them to know, "The Night Before Christmas." But why not let them have both, each in its proper place?

Many adults, as well as children, look upon it as a time simply of receiving. Certainly we should receive anew in our heart our Lord Jesus Christ, and just as truly we should share Him with others.

The ancient Romans celebrated their winter festival, the Saturnalia, about the time we celebrate Christmas. They exchanged gifts. Many of us today haven't gotten far above the pagan level of "exchanging." Instead, we should be giving and sharing.

So Christmas is a time of giving, sharing and receiving. Let our first gift be Jesus Christ, who gave us Himself at Christmas.

### FINLAND PAYS OFF AGAIN ON WORLD WAR I DEBT

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Finland once more has kept up its reputation as the only country never to default on loans contracted from the United States in the aftermath of World War I.

The Treasury announced it had received a payment of \$259,479.74 from the government of Finland, of which \$83,000 was for reduction of principal.

Officials said Finland now has paid more than \$7,500,000 on its debt but still owes around \$8 million.

### Housing Program Of President in Nutshell

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Here at a glance is the new housing program announced by President Truman:

Anyone may build a house for his own occupancy. Until now only veterans could get permits.

Priorities on building materials will be dropped.

"Some increases" in non-residential construction will be permitted.

The price ceiling on new houses built in 1946 was \$10,000.

Where new houses are built to be let, the project will average may be more and some now a flat \$60 ceiling.

The allocation of raw materials may be dropped. Production continues high.



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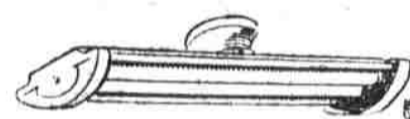
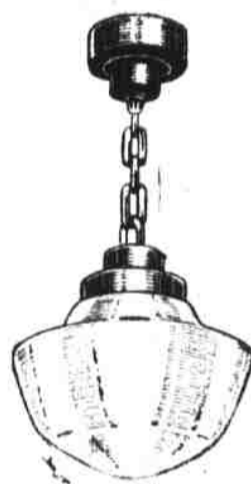
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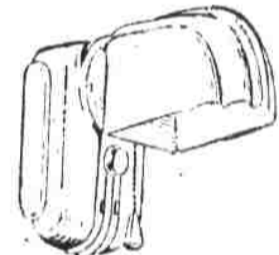
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