



## America's First Carol Written For Indians

As far as it is known, the very first Christmas carol composed in America was written for an Indian tribe by their missionary priest. The priest, Father Jean de Brebeuf, was born in France in 1593 and came to the New World in 1626 to spread the Gospel of Jesus.

Preaching Christianity to the Huron Indians, Father Brebeuf sought to convey the meaning of Christmas to his parishioners by composing a carol that the Indians could sing in their own language. The priest selected a popular 16th century folk song from France, "Une Jeune Puceile", for his tune and wrote new words for the Indian worshippers.

The French priest had been very impressed by the Hurons and their comprehension of the Nativity. In his writings, he describes how the Hurons had built a small chapel of cedar and fir branches to house the manger of the Christ Child, and how they prepared themselves to receive the Infant Jesus into their hearts on Christmas Day by performing some sort of penance. He wrote, "Even those who were at a distance of more than 2 days' journey met at a given place to sing hymns in honor of the newborn Child."

Father Brebeuf wrote the lyrics to his carol in 1641; on March 16, 1649, he was martyred by the Iroquois, along with other prisoners.

MAY THE JOY AND PEACE OF CHRISTMAS BE WITH YOU TODAY AND ALWAYS

W.L. Poole Agency



Mrs. Roy Conoly  
111 Prospect

## A Christmas Poem

The young mother (so very young!)  
Smiles softly to behold Him  
And takes a ragged swaddling cloth  
To tenderly enfold Him  
His infant eyes gaze upon  
A world of strife and sorrow  
Does He see now the silent tree  
Awaiting some tomorrow?  
But loving fingers take  
His hand  
With playfulness, caressing,  
He stretches infant arms to her.  
As if in some new blessing  
The mother laughs with sweet delight  
At this endearing game  
And speaks it for the first time:  
His wondrous, holy Name.

In Sweden the Yultomten is their gnome of Christmas, also known as Nisse. He is an elf or sprite.



Hope the Holidays "Suit You"



Best wishes for a very merry Christmas season from the people down at

DeVane's

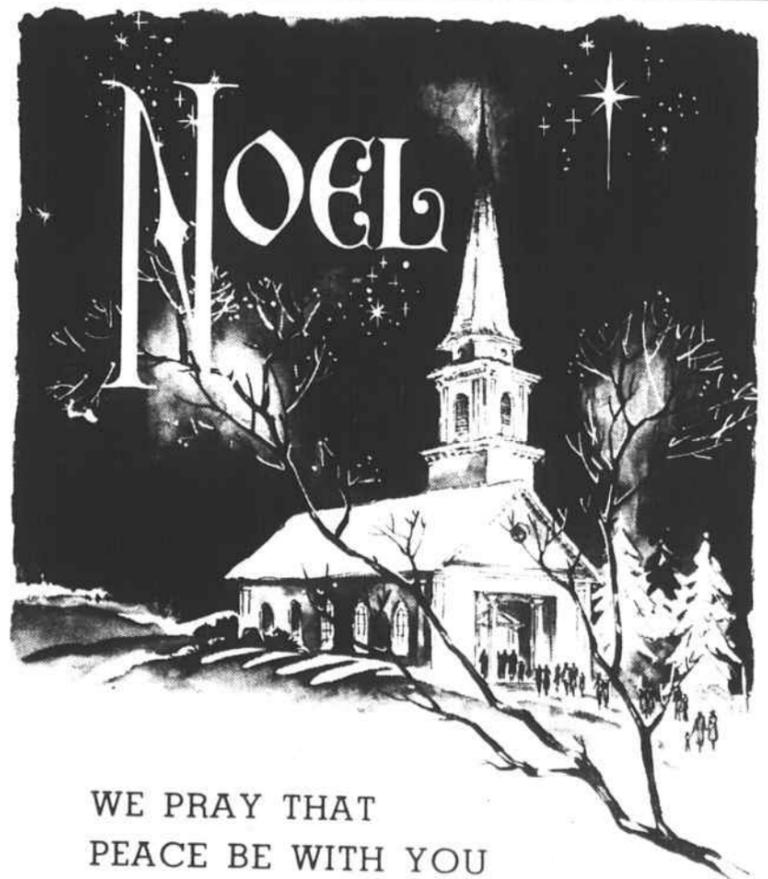
PEACE ON EARTH  
GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN



May glad tidings sound forth this Holy Season, renewing the hope and joy of that most wonderful night, bringing good will and harmony to all men everywhere.

TexElastic Corp.

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WE PRAY THAT  
PEACE BE WITH YOU

May that peace that passes understanding... the peace of Jesus Christ, our Lord... come into every heart this Christmas. We wish you and yours the very best!



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