

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus"

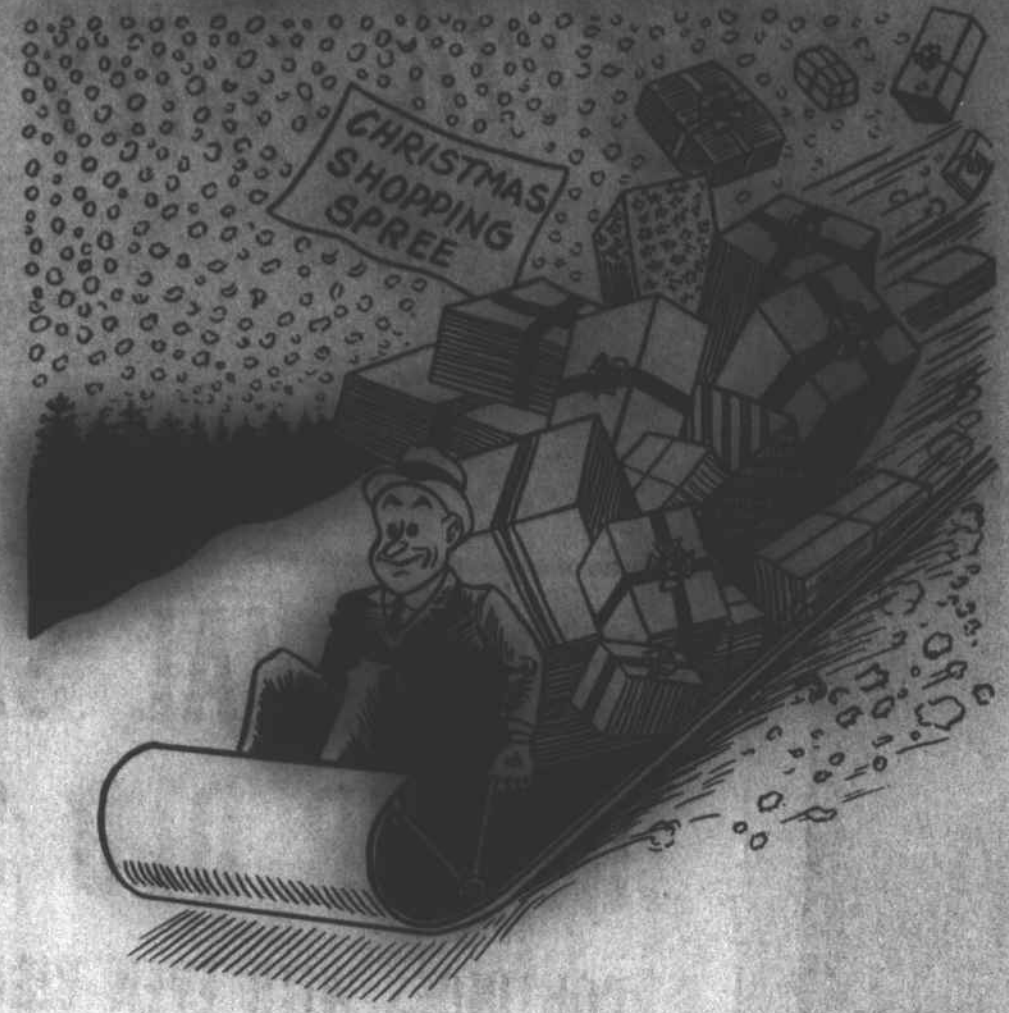
Sixty-two years ago, an eight-year-old girl wrote to the New York Sun to ask quite simply: "Please tell me the truth — is there a Santa Claus?" The newspaper's reply, which has become one of the Christmas season's classics, was in part, as follows:

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas; how dreary the world would be if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sight and sound. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished . . .

"Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children or men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in this world . . .

"No Santa Claus? Thank God! He lives, and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

MAN, WHAT A RIDE



Henry McCann

Enjoy Christmas Cautiously

Christmas presents help you share the joyous holiday but loose wrappings and paper can become a real fire danger, warns Liberty Mutual Insurance Companies. Christmas-morning confusion can have the house in an uproar and a lighted match or cigarette that is carelessly dropped in the wrappings can have the house in flames. Discard or put away all wrapping papers as soon as presents are opened to avoid tragic possibilities.

The lighted candle adds a special festive touch to the Christmas season but be extremely careful in placing candles around the house. Candles placed too near paper decorations, Christmas card displays, or the boughs of the tree can ignite trouble.

The Minister's Desk

By: D.E. Parkerson; Carrboro, N.C.

A shipwrecked sailor who had spent three years on an island in the South Pacific was overjoyed one day to see a ship drop anchor in the bay. A small boat came ashore and an officer handed the sailor a bunch of newspapers. "The captain suggests," he told the sailor, "that you read what's going on in the world and then let us know if you still want to be rescued."

When I read this little story, which is probably a fable, I wondered what the young man's decision was. The story didn't tell me. The whole affair started me to thinking. Which would be the best; stay on the secluded island away from the world's problems, or come back and tackle the problems of civilization?

No one can deny that the temptation would be there, and very strong too, to stay on the island. There would be no inhumanity between man and his brother. No one would hate his brother or seek to take from him what belongs to him. Robberies, looting, arson, rape, injustice, and prejudice could not exist between people around you for the simple reason that there would be no people around you. Nobody to get in your hair or in your way! How wonderful would it be as a wonderful as we think?

Man, in time of heartaches and difficulty, has always experienced the inner urge to get away from it all, to leave it all behind, to become free, to escape responsibility. And whenever this cowardly urge has been indulged some of the darkest pages of history have been written. There are more than just traces of this asceticism in the Christian church. To far too large a degree the church has waited for others to "come in" when it ought itself to be "going out". You can stress orthodoxy and ignore ethics until you become an orthodox nobody.

The world around us has so many problems that if Moses could come down from Mount Sinai today the two tablets he would be carrying would be aspirin. But we accomplish nothing by running away to a secluded island to hide. You cannot hide either from the world's ills or from your responsibility in it. First of all, as a human being you have the responsibility to make the world a better place in which to live. Second, the Christian has a far higher obligation at this point. Or he is not like Christ.

Peace of mind, which seems to be the thing people are seeking today, does not come from passive withdrawal; it comes from being constructively involved. Paul and Silas did not whine while they were beaten and in prison—they sang.

Could this psychic pain we experience when we see our world's ills be like the physical pain of a certain junior executive? He had had his office furnished with some ultramodern furniture and discovered that the pains and aches he was having were coming from the fact that he had been sitting in the wastebasket. Sitting! And in the wastebasket!

Christmas trees can be the source of much sparkle and add a great deal to the season cheer but they may become safety hazards. The tree trunk should be sawed at an angle to allow a more rapid in-take of water to keep the tree fresh.

A Merry Christmas is fine, but make it a safe one. Check to see that there are no fire hazards in your home. Fires, many caused by carelessness, take thousands of lives and cause billions of dollars worth of damage each year.

Bright holiday spirits can be dampened rapidly if proper precautions are not taken. Be sure that materials placed around or under your Christmas tree are fireproof and never block an exit with the tree. Have a happy holiday, but have a safe one too.

A Christmas tree adds beauty and spirit to the happy holiday season, but proper care of the evergreen is important to avoid needless tragedy. A tree should be stored in water which is checked every day, especially if it is near a heating system. Two weeks is the maximum a tree should remain up.

The Christmas season adds a joyous spirit to any home but often a confused one also. Many things such as trees and decorations make the home a little more difficult to get around than normally. Most families

SMOKEY SAYS
★ SAYS ★

Early in the next Congress, I plan to reintroduce a Constitutional Amendment relating to the appointment of Supreme Justices.

Recent deliberations in the Senate on the nominations to the Supreme Court have focused attention on this appointive process. The nature of the present selection system often commends itself to factors which are not germane to judicial competence. Personal and political friendship with the President has assumed a role that I do not believe makes for the best nominations for these high judicial offices.

Formerly, there was less national concern about this matter. With increasing frequency, however, the judgment of just five members of the Supreme Court has been changing the economic, social, and governmental structure of our country by overriding established precedents in the law and the prerogatives of the Congress and the State Legislatures. Today, this concern involves more than mere disagreement with a particular decision or line of decisions. An increasing body of opinion holds that the Court is not performing its constitutional functions properly, that it misunderstands its

constitutional mandate, and that it has assumed a position of judicial superiority out of keeping with its historically accepted role.

Even so, many think that it would be a grave departure from propriety to change the method of selecting Justices of the Supreme Court. Not so. A few years ago, we limited our President to two terms of office. Congress will soon be considering reform of the Electoral College system which determines who shall be President and Vice President. Many years ago, the Constitution was amended to require the direct election of Senators.

It is surprising that we have not explored this matter more thoroughly before now. Undoubtedly, many have their own notions about how we should select Supreme Court Justices. My amendment, however, stems from much thought about the need of a perfecting change in our Constitution on this subject so that we can have a truly qualified and independent judiciary.

In brief, it would operate in this fashion. When there is a vacancy on the Court, the President would call a conference

of the Chief Justice of the United States and the chief judges of each of the eleven U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals. This conference would name and send to the President five or more persons selected as qualified to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court. The President would nominate one of the persons so designated to fill the vacancy. If the Senate then advised and consented to the appointment of this individual, the nominee would be appointed by the President to fill the vacancy. If the Senate did not consent to the nomination, the President would be obligated to send to the Senate another individual on the list.

Actually, the amendment which I intend to offer seeks to utilize the judgments of the senior judges of our country on a matter of grave importance -- the fate of constitutional government in our land. The President frequently calls upon advisory commissions for advice. In this instance, a mandatory requirement that he obtain the opinion of the Chief Justice of our State Courts and the Senior Judge of the U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals would give stature to the nominating process that is coming under increasing question. It would also preserve the essence of our federal system in the process.

For these reasons, I plan to reoffer my amendment requiring such a method of selecting Justices of our Supreme Court.

The Epidemic

Reminiscent of the days during World War One, is all the talk about the Hong Kong influenza epidemic.

Hopefully there will never be another like that of 1917-18. One remembers the vast number of people stricken with the terrible malady. Whole families were in bed at the same time, with not enough well ones to care for the sick.

A combination of flu, with its dreaded ally pneumonia, whether or not one contracted the latter, usually determined whether one succumbed or survived.

The modern method and materials of inoculation were at the time unknown. Or at any rate unavailable.

All doctors were over worked. Almost to the extent of exhaustion. If the doctor saw you once per week you were lucky indeed. Depending of course, on the seriousness of your condition.

But out of it all, was born a certain amount of humor. Some poetic lyricist composed a song entitled "Dat-Hen-Flue-Zease" and completed the last line of each stanza with those three mutilated words.

One mind absented soul, when asked the nature of his mother's illness, and for getting the common name, ("german measles") for rubella answered in the negative to influenza, and said that she had "the war measles."

Eventhough medical science and technology has come a long way since then, it can be surmised that doctors would still warn against apathy, or over confidence. In reconing with this disease. Especially for the aged or the weak.

By: F.L. Jenkins

Uncle Pete From Chittlin Switch Says:

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

The fellers at the country store Saturday night pooled their ignorance and come up with opinions on overthring from marriage to houseflies. The advice they was giving wasn't worth no more than it cost, and it didn't cost nothing so I just set and listened.

First off, Zeke Grubb reported he had went to a church wedding of one of his kinfoles Thursday night and he reported the bride and groom stood side by side and said "I plight thee my troth." He was talking the fellers what them words meant but nobody could tell him, so a note was made to ask Zeke's preacher the next time he comes to one of our sessions.

Bug Hookum figgered that whatever it meant it give the woman the big end of the stick. He said wimmen was always getting excited about their equal rights, and they refuse to say "obey" in that "love, honor and obey" part of the vova.

Josh Clodhopper, that takes a dim view of things in general, said one of the things wrong in this troubled world was millions of men and women "plighting their troth" without having no idea of what they was "plighting."

As fer the bride, claimed Clem, they figger they got a natural right to change their mind even afore they make it up.

We postponed any more discussion on this matter, Mister Editor, until we can git in touch with Zeke's preacher.

Ed Doolittle reported he had saw in the papers where one of them science fellers in Boston wanted to control the population explosion by putting chimics in the water. Ed said he was agin it, that it was safer to let nature take its course. He said he had saw that if nature didn't control the housefly population and it ever oftrapping from one pair of flies lived fer six months the whole world would be covered in houseflies 47 foot deep. Ed said one of them Federal agencies had figgered them two flies would grow to 100 quintillion and Ed said the only thing he could compare with that kind of growth was the national debt under the Democrats.

Personal, Mister Editor, I go along with them science fellers most of the time on account of I think they was making progress. But Ed ain't never been very progressive in these matters. I can recollect way back yonder when he was all agin putting iodine in salt to per their troth" without having no idea of what they was "plighting."

Clem Webster was disagreed with Josh, said the wimmen figgered plight for the groom meant he giveth everthing and troth meant he kept on giving.

Yours truly
Uncle Pete

Let's Go Fishin'
BY BOB BREWSTER
Outdoor Editor
Hobby Outdoors

BACKWOODS BOATS

For fishing backwoods lakes and streams, "cartoppers" are the answer.

These compact, lightweight floating packages provide the only solution to fishing streams too deep for wading and small inaccessible backwoods lakes seldom visited by most anglers.

While most of the emphasis these days is on glass-reinforced fiberglass hulls, aluminum canoes are especially light, won't soak up additional pounds and take a beating. Choose a square stern model, hitch on a small outboard, and you seldom have to pick up a paddle.

Small skiffs are handy, too, and they offer more freedom of movement by occupants. The flat bottom, square and John boats are the best fishing platforms in calm waters. However, they can be tough to maneuver when a strong wind starts kicking up whitewater.

Select your fishing rig with an eye toward the type of waters you'll be fishing most often and keep it light, advise the Memory Guide, then start looking for those handy spots for best fishing. The best advantage is a boat with a lot of storage space for gear and tackle.

Portability is the basic requirement, confine your search to boats weighing under 100 pounds. You'll be doing most of the carrying and carrying is a tiring job.

1 Yr. Ago
Milford Quinn, president of Quinn Wholesale Company is re-elected Chairman of the Duplin Development Commission.

Senate Rotation Agreement is out in 10th District. Counties in the district are Duplin, Pender, New Hanover, and Sampson.

Miss Susan Teachey of Wallace is a candidate for Katherine Smith Reynolds Scholarship.

17th annual cattlemen's conference is scheduled for January in Raleigh.

5 Yrs. Ago
Mrs. Nanie G. Brown is awarded contract for construction of a new post office building in Kenansville.

Charles Sloan is elected president of the Wallace Chamber of Commerce.

J. Macy Batts dies from two bullet wounds in the chest, Kenneth Teachey found in unconscious condition nearby.

Ralph Cottle is guest speaker of Brotherhood at First Baptist Church, Warsaw.

10 Yrs. Ago
Kenneth Turner of Rose Hill is named Chairman of Duplin County March of Dimes.

Ransom Carl Wheeler, Rt. 1, Magnolia, is found dead in blizzard which paralyzed the area.

Invitations for bids for SAGE plant at Calypso to be issued in February.

Eight Rose Hillians receive certificate for successfully completing first aid course.

20 Yrs. Ago
Tom Miller of Columbus, Mississippi plans visit to Miller-Town. First visit home in 25 years.

Duplin County Historical Association receives first donation toward production of Duplin Story. G.E. Alphin Jr. is president of Assn.

Dr. Ruffin receives minor injuries when car is demolished after turning over several times on sharp curve.

The Duplin Times goes on the air for 13 weeks from Clinton, Goldsboro, Kinston, and Raleigh.

ann construction seems to be the best all-around choice, but strip-canvas designs that will accommodate an outboard and certain fiberglass hulls are suitable.

Canoes, the original backcountry craft, are natural cartoppers. Easy to handle, they're ideal for fishing rivers or small lakes. Aluminum canoes are especially light, won't soak up additional pounds and take a beating. Choose a square stern model, hitch on a small outboard, and you seldom have to pick up a paddle.

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Did You Know?

Is Christmas really the date of Christ's birth? Scholars don't know. For more than 300 years Christians observed His birthday on varying dates. Around the middle of the fourth century A.D. Bishop Liberius and the Christians of Rome began to celebrate His birthday on December 25.

World Book Encyclopedia says Liberius probably adopted this date because people already observed it as the Feast of Saturn, celebrating the birthday of the sun. Christians honored Christ, instead of Saturn, as the Light of the World.

The Christians of Egypt celebrated Christmas on January 6, and many members of the Eastern Orthodox Church still observe this date.

Computers Now Save Lives!

Nancy R. Demos, Director of the Hudson County (New Jersey) Heart Association is shown receiving one of the first cards issued by Medicon's World Medical Data Bank. Mr. Martin Ludwig, President of Computer Control Inc., the parent company is giving Miss Demos the card.

are more active in the home in this festive time of year. Be sure to be extra careful to avoid home accidents during the holiday season. A safe holiday can lead to many more happy ones.

PLEASE...THE WOODS ARE AWFULLY DRY!

NOVEMBER 1958

Be extra careful! Watch that match—PLEASE!

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A Duplin County Journal devoted to the welfare, material, economic and social development of the county.

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1. Testating
6. Malling fee
13. Custom
14. Baltimore team
15. Dwell
16. Flowers
17. Tool case
18. Sun god
20. French
21. "the" plural
21. Printer's measure
22. Length measure
24. Perceive
28. Excites
30. Scorch
31. Sick
33. Jumps
35. Female sheep
36. Throw
38. Hung in folds
40. Water vapor
42. Male title: plural
43. In
45. Grate
47. Sodium: chem.
48. French friend
49. One released on honor
53. Become liable
55. Come in again
56. Of Norway
57. Beginnings
58. Horse
59. Before
60. Otherwise
61. Many: common plural
62. Require
63. Cutting tool
64. Before
65. Otherwise
66. Beer
67. Possessive pronoun
68. Postage
69. Wren
70. Malay dress
71. Plural suffix
72. Many: common plural
73. Broken
74. Trigonometric functions
75. Throw
76. "Aha"
77. Command
78. To a horse
79. English letter
80. Perfumed
81. Platoon
82. Many: common plural
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90. Postage
91. Postage
92. Many: common plural
93. Possessive pronoun
94. Postage
95. Many: common plural
96. Possessive pronoun
97. Postage
98. Many: common plural
99. Possessive pronoun
100. Postage

DOWN

1. Vibrate
2. Hat
3. Death notice
4. Clear
5. Everlasting
6. Explosive sound
7. Broken
8. Trigonometric functions
9. Throw
10. "Aha"
11. Command
12. To a horse
13. English letter
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Answers to Puzzle

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