

THE ERWIN CHATTER

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CHRISTMAS - 1946

AND NUMEROUS indeed are the hearts to which Christmas brings a brief season of happiness and enjoyment. How many families whose members have been dispersed and scattered far and wide, in the restless struggle for life, are then reunited and meet once again in that happy state of companionship and mutual good will, which is a source of such pure and unalloyed delight, and one so incompatible with the cares and sorrows of the world, that the religious belief of the most civilized nations, and the rude traditions of the roughest savages, alike number it among the first days of a future state of existence, provided for the blest and happy! How many recollections, and how many dormant sympathies, Christmas-time awakens.—CHARLES DICKENS.

May each of you, the readers of THE CHATTER, enjoy the merriest Yuletide season ever in the approaching holidays—may the joys of each member of the Erwin Family be unmarred now and throughout the coming New Year.

HAPPY NEW YEAR - 1947

THE SUN is just rising on the morning of another day, the first day of a new year. What can I wish that this day, this year, may bring to me? Nothing that shall make the world or others poorer, nothing at the expense of other men; but just those few things which in their coming do not stop with me, but touch me rather, as they pass and gather strength:—A few friends who understand me, and yet remain my friends. A work to do which has real value without which the world would feel the poorer. A return for such work small enough not to tax unduly any one who pays. A mind unafraid to travel, even though the trail be not blazed. An understanding heart. A sight of the eternal hills and unresting sea, and of something beautiful the hand of man has made. A sense of humor and the power to laugh. A little leisure with nothing to do. A few moments of quiet, silent meditation. The sense of the presence of God. And the patience to wait for the coming of these things, with the wisdom to know them when they come.—A Morning Wish by W. R. Hunt.

Let each of us in the Erwin Family strive in the New Year to make every day a safe day on the job and off the job—let each of us strive to find joy in our work and to produce for others even as they produce for us—let us think seriously on community, state, and national affairs in assuming our duties as citizens as well as taking our rights and liberties as citizens of this great country—let us finally find joy and laugh in the fuller life which such striving is bound to bring to each of us. May 1947 be a very Happy New Year indeed!

Your Health Clinic

Your Health Department is concentrating its attention upon the health of our school children at the present time. The North Carolina School Health Coordinating Service of the State Board of Health came in with helping hands and the program, which was divided into several phases, actually commenced in October. All the children in our schools are being checked by the teachers and nurses with a view to listing those who apparently need medical and dental attention. The children have been checked for defects of sight and anything else that might interfere with good health and satisfactory progress in school.

The Health Officer is now going through the schools for the purpose of examining the pupils who have been listed by the teachers and nurses. Parents of children who are in need of professional attention will receive written notices calling their attention to the defects that apparently need treatment by their family phy-

sicians or dentists, or the attention of specialists.

We should all cooperate in this program for better health. The health of the school child is the health of our citizens in general. We should not only strive to correct existing defects in our children, but we should also strive to prevent poor health and do everything possible to improve school living. Your Health Department is cooperating with the school authorities in the effort to improve sanitary conditions in the schools. It is interested in the prevention of over-crowding; good pure water supplies, adequate toilet facilities, better lighting and illumination, better feeding programs, good ventilation, wholesome exercise provided in gymnasiums and playgrounds; the removal of fire and accident hazards.

All citizens can assist in this program and all community organizations are solicited to lend support.

It is believed that most par-



CELEBRATES TWELFTH BIRTHDAY—Billy Brown, son of Mrs. Vetra Brown, recently celebrated another birthday.



SUE SPILLMAN, charming little miss and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Spillman, Spinning room. Sue is five years of age.



WEAVE ROOM RECORD FOR ATTENDANCE IS SET by Mary Byerly, who has not missed a day of work since the death of her father three years ago this past Thanksgiving. The Weaving Department is justly proud of this fine record set by Miss Byerly.

ents will find the means of having the physical defects of their children properly attended. Some may not be so fortunate and for these the Welfare Department will seek the ways and means of getting something done. An occasional child will require the attention of a specialist. Your Health Department is already seeking information in regard to reduced rates for those who are in need of financial help. Hearing aids, glasses and special operative procedures sometimes run into considerable sums of money. The State Health Coordinating (Continued on Page 6)

Strictly for the Girls

DECK THE HALLS WITH tra-al-la-la-la—IT'S CHRISTMAS! The Committee's hard work on the Company Party, while baribboned packages pile high—but WHOOPS—look whom you FORGOT! So here we are, in the nick of time, with ideas to hide your forgetfulness. Full of love and fun are two last minute suggestions you can use without another last minute raid on the rent money. FOR A GIFT THAT'S CLOSE TO THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS, look in the book department at a beautifully bound little white leather Bible, stamped and edged in gold. Half a dozen maps in the back, done in four colors, show many areas of early history which are the focus of international attention again today. This thoughtful present costs no more than a good box of candy, but theres someone on everyone's list who'd find such a Book far more satisfying to receive.



IN A DIFFERENT MOOD, but equally wide-spread in appeal, a single or double deck of playing cards makes a gift to please all ages and suit all budgets. Four-fifths of the nation shuffle the deck, according to a recent survey, which shows that children and grown-ups alike find fun and relaxation in playing cards. This year, happily, there are new cards enough for everybody to tuck in stocking toes, use as grab bag gifts, and combine with other playtime accessories to make up more important gift offerings.



SUGAR'S SLOWLY REAPPEARING in the stores, but there are a dozen holiday demands our your coupon's worth. Stout molasses gingerbread men march to your rescue! Link them with ribbons for a handsome parade around the Christmas tree, or write on names in white icing, and use them as placecards on a holiday table.

GINGERBREAD MEN

- 1 cup shortening
- 4 1/2 cups sifted flour
- 4 teaspoons ginger
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup New Orleans molasses
- 1 egg, unbeaten
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon extract



Melt shortening; add molasses, unbeaten egg, and lemon extract, mix well. Add sifted dry ingredients, stirring until smooth. Chill dough till firm, roll on floured board, and cut with floured cutters. (Or flatten balls and rolls of dough and press them together for head, body or arms, and legs. Raisins make the eyes, nose, mouth, and buttons. Bake on greased cookie sheets in 375 degree oven, about 12 minutes. Makes 18 dolls 4 inches high.

Stretch the tree-trimming frolic by making some of the trimmings at home. Young imps will love stringing garlands of raisins, cranberries, and unshelled peanuts to twine through the green boughs. A new aluminum foil package keeps raisins soft, plump, and nutritious. And washing those paws: Junior's, that is, keeps the food fit to eat later on!

RADIO PROGRAMS WILL HAVE TO FIND something besides grandma's red flannel undies for joke material—her means of keeping warm and cozy is in style again, and red flannel is back with a bang!

Woolies, snuggies, booties, hoods, and mittens in the gay warm stuff will be in many Christmas packages to make winter less chilly and more fun. And up comes an internationally known manufacturer of nail aids with a "red flannel" nail enamel! No blue undertones does it have and no orange... just a good, clear, true RED. Red flannel by the bottle is a nice "little" present, too.



MARRIAGES MAY BE MADE IN HEAVEN... but coming down to earth, a lot of family friction is caused by the question: "Who should handle the family money, my husband or me?" A timely question at Christmas, too! To get an answer, the Institute of Life Insurance went to the authorities. They say the wife usually makes the day by day purchases, and spends 85 per cent of the family money. Therefore, it's her duty to learn to be a canny shopper and good manager. And it's never too soon to start learning, girls. The husband usually takes care of the long range items: taxes, insurance, savings, etc. But there may still be arguments unless they decide together what they want out of life. Plan for it! Save toward it. Helpful hint: Never say MY money or YOUR money. It's OUR money!

FIRST LUNCHEON MEETING

(Continued from page 1)

mutual interest news and happenings that should add to the overall enjoyment and happiness in the local plants. He went on to say, "Not as an official of the Company, but as a member of the Erwin family, I want to express my appreciation to all the reporters for their good work in the past. I want to see THE CHATTER fulfill a larger place as time goes by."

The floor was then thrown open for general discussion and for suggestions. Enthusiastic response to plans for the paper was made by each reporter present. The main suggestion made for aiding in gathering news was the establishment of boxes where each

employee could deposit his items of news and pictures and thereby facilitate the reporters' work in getting all events reported. The slogan, "Each Employee A Reporter," was adopted in this new promotional program. Both Calvert and Holt endorsed the "Chatter Box" idea. Mr. Holt pointed out that this suggestion had been under consideration ever since Mr. Calvert took over the editing of the paper and that plans for placing boxes around the plants would be made immediately.

The luncheon was planned by Mrs. Hattie Moore of Riverside Hotel. There were several reporters unable to attend and Mrs. Mildred White, the editor, had urgent business that kept her from attending the luncheon.