

# Charlie Ads

PAGE 12

## Christmas Day in Trenches Twelve Years Ago Was Far Different

The following paper, written by a former soldier, was read to members of the Rotary club at their luncheon Monday noon at the Long Pine Tea House by the Rev. Floyd Lopez.

By Harold R. Peat (in the Rotarian)  
Soloists to Robert! A memory. It is a French sector of the line. . . a line of soldiers in trenches. . . and shallow, mean and muddy. . . and beyond that rattle. . . there are boots, thousands of boots. . . engaging thousands of feet, boots. . . and attached to the muddy boots are men. . . yet, for all that world dubs them by their trade name of soldiers. . . The men are men yet, inside the muddled misty blue of uniform cloth for it is only 1914. . . Twelve years ago. . . In the thoughts of men a war just begun has its ending already in sight. . . "The enemy" on the muddy banks of the line says, "It can only last until Christmas, they cannot beat us."



## We Wish You A Very Merry Christmas

BOUGHNER BROS. Hudson and Essex Sales and Service

The man inside the soldier who is clothed in blue or khaki is not yet tired. There is mud and rain and cannon, but Tommy Atkins sings of Tipperary which he will never see, and Poltu chants with vengeance the Marseillaise. "Die Wacht am Rhein" echoes from castle to castle of that river's length. . . Innocent men! A million Allied soldiers stretching three hundred and ninety-five miles as they lie in stinking trenches from the borders of Switzerland to the conquered waters of the English Channel. . . stretching three hundred and ninety-five miles from borderland to borderland. . . Soldiers wallowing in mud, gasping under the hood of an unprecedented shell fire. . . Soldiers in a world war, but still men. . . unrestrained the significance of this curtain-raiser to a holocaust. . . Men five months in the throes of world war and still singing and laughing, sometimes jesting with the common enemy a few hundred yards across no man's land. . . There is no hate yet and no thought of revenge. The soldiers are still sportsmen in the queer, fuddled reading of civilization's idea of a fair-play adjustment of natural differences. . . We claim relationship with the enemy. "We are the Saxons, you are the Anglo-Saxons, why shoot!" And why? "Wait for the Bavarians." "All right!" We are the Saxons, the Prussians come here next week, if you don't shoot, we won't.

So we don't shoot this week. We will next week, next year, next year and next year, but we don't know that then. "Three years of the duping" we thought of our enlistment card and laughed again. Earl Kitchener was old and we were young. We knew. . . December 1st and the men got restless. Mud and filth and wet. . . damned wet. We cursed the mud and water and the misery Christmas-leave list, but we didn't. . . Christmas—bah! . . . Then Christmas morning dawned. Christmas—bah! Black clouds, rain, mud, and mist, thick December mist, thick squelching mud, boots sucking in and out of the ooze, and men attached to the boots. . . But there is light and hope in the souls of thousands of men, thousands of soldiers. . . points on guard at Soissons. A rifle cracks and a bullet whizzes by. Muscles are tense and eyes gleam through loop holes. This is a dangerous sector. It is suicide if one side or the other shows a head for one moment above the parapet. . . Yet Christmas is felt even in this thick misty dampness. A young poltu does a foolish thing. Perhaps. He yields to the unfavorable impulse of dropping his rifle while on active service. The officers are notified, his comrades surprised into inaction. The poltu jumps on top of the parapet. In full view of the German lines he stands with arms akimbo. Bullets speed to right and left of him. Over his head there is a rain of lead and bullets spend them-

elves in the heaped earth under his feet. . . "Ain, was enfanst" he raises his arm in salutation to the enemy. "Vive l'Allemagne!" His voice shooting across in the immediate vicinity. A young German soldier, unarmed, springs upon his parapet-wave in the immediate vicinity. . . "Vive la France." . . Youth of France and youth of Germany suddenly find themselves looking into each other's eyes. The unliking troops are appalled. There is a silence so deep, so strange, so new that only to the men who will live until November 11th, 1918, for the unfathomed depths of it to be experienced a second time. . . The song though hymnified by the oddity of their position, the two young men move across no man's land. They meet, stop, hand clasp hands. "Dieu sauve la patrie!" "Guten morgen." . . "O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, Wie schen sind deine Blätter, Du grünst nicht mehr zur Sommerzeit, Aber auch im Winter wenn es schneht: O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, Wie schon sind deine Blätter!" . . . The song rings, husky tones of many men's voices, then clearer as soldiers again and again sing "over the top," unprotected by artillery, unguarded by bayonet. . . French poltu and German. . . laugh, make jokes, fraternize. The hereditary and biological instinct breaks Peace on the men. . . In record-breaking time French, German, British, and Belgian soldiers from one end of the line to the other, forget war, forget their new job of killing. . . Children on Christmas Day—on the Christmas Day of 1914 they are happy, they are glad. There is no hate, there is no thought of revenge. The day of old Ypres, where deadly gas has yet to work a new destruction, at Soissons, where war and still singing and laughing, sometimes jesting with blood of troops already gone. . . There is no youth and Christmas and with one God there is no other belief. Christmas—good will—Peace.

Darkness fell, the drear sleet of a Winter night dashed against the faces of tired men, faces flushed and smiling like the faces of little children after a party. They stumbled through mud to the porch shelter of earth holes packed deep between trenches. Christmas was over and a world war progressed once more. . . Dawn. There is the rumble of guns, mud, filth again the birth of overwhelming Hate. . . Terse the official communique of December 26th, 1914, read: "Yesterday, Christmas Day, near Soissons, after two soldiers had appeared unmolested in no man's land, the troops of the Allies and enemy fraternized. Christmas greetings were exchanged. Firing ceased for the full length of the line and football games were enjoyed."

STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Oakland—ss. I, J. H. Hart, Clerk of the Court, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears by the records of said Court. Dated December 14, 1926. J. H. Hart, Clerk of the Court.

## May Your Christmas Be "Merry" and Your New Year Be "Happy"

Are the Season's Best Wishes from

# Palmer-Blackmer Co.

DRY GOODS MEN'S FURNISHINGS LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S WEAR

108-110 N. Woodward Phone 609

**REPAIRS**  
good home to large salary. Phone 446 from 8 to 12.

**HOUSECLEANING?** Let us help you. We clean all or part of your house, painted walls, ceilings, mail boxes, woodwork and windows. Fresh wood and polish. Wash down walls and ceilings. . . .  
Amen Window Cleaning Co., Phone 115, 211 S. State St., Royal Oak, 1211

**HAVE your Furniture Repaired and Upholstered?** Variable. . . .  
Work guaranteed. Phone Birmingham 10777, Joseph Hall. Work called in and delivered. 5017

**MUTTONS made of your own material.** 15 sizes and styles to choose from. . . .  
H. C. Chavers, 412 N. Woodward or 100 Dallas St., 25-26

**HARLES L. ADAMS,** Electrician, Electrical and Heating Work. 202 Oakland Ave., Birmingham, Mich. Phone 112-1, 25-26

**HOUSECLEANING—Why do your own?** Let us do it. Prices are right. . . .  
Factory work guaranteed with speedy service. . . .  
Wm. Birmingham 1515X

**HIP COVERS made to order.** All de- signs. . . .  
R. K. Brooks, 245 N. Wood- ward, Phone 622-W, 1841

**HELP WANTED—MALE**  
Shoes desired for men who work in every trade. . . .  
Sellers Shoe Service, 110 N. Maple, 1811

**HELP WANTED—FEMALE**  
Wanted—Experienced house- keeper in small family; no other women in charge—excellent preferential.

**UNDER THIS HEADING—"For Sale"** For Rent, Etc., cash per word, 14c; for each consecutive inser- tion of same ad, 1c per word—minimum charge 25c. Ten cents extra for each ad not paid in advance. All copy must be in by Wednes- day, 6:00 p. m., of each week, to be inserted. Our Telephone Numbers are 11 and 12.

**REPAIRS**  
good home to large salary. Phone 446 from 8 to 12.

**HOUSECLEANING?** Let us help you. We clean all or part of your house, painted walls, ceilings, mail boxes, woodwork and windows. Fresh wood and polish. Wash down walls and ceilings. . . .  
Amen Window Cleaning Co., Phone 115, 211 S. State St., Royal Oak, 1211

**HAVE your Furniture Repaired and Upholstered?** Variable. . . .  
Work guaranteed. Phone Birmingham 10777, Joseph Hall. Work called in and delivered. 5017

**MUTTONS made of your own material.** 15 sizes and styles to choose from. . . .  
H. C. Chavers, 412 N. Woodward or 100 Dallas St., 25-26

**HARLES L. ADAMS,** Electrician, Electrical and Heating Work. 202 Oakland Ave., Birmingham, Mich. Phone 112-1, 25-26

**HOUSECLEANING—Why do your own?** Let us do it. Prices are right. . . .  
Factory work guaranteed with speedy service. . . .  
Wm. Birmingham 1515X

**HIP COVERS made to order.** All de- signs. . . .  
R. K. Brooks, 245 N. Wood- ward, Phone 622-W, 1841

**HELP WANTED—MALE**  
Shoes desired for men who work in every trade. . . .  
Sellers Shoe Service, 110 N. Maple, 1811

**HELP WANTED—FEMALE**  
Wanted—Experienced house- keeper in small family; no other women in charge—excellent preferential.

**WANTED—Work by the day.** Phone 381, 180 N. Woodward.

**FOR RENT—ROOMS**  
FURNISHED room above in 214 Main St., Phone 516.

**HEATED sleeping room for rent.** suitable for one. Telephone 873-M, 219 Woodford St., Birmingham.

**ONE furnished room, with board.** 10 Woodford St., Birmingham.

**FOR RENT—Three large pleasant rooms** with bath. Heated and furnished for single housekeeping. Private entrance. Garage. 409 Townsend St. 36

**FOR RENT—HOUSES & APARTMENTS**  
Four rooms without bath. 811, Jack- son. Phone 1233, a month. Clean 25

**111 WEST RUFFNER,** or call Birmingham 785. 3-room flat. Modern, ex- cellent location. \$200 a month. Clean 25

**2 BEER Flat, either four or five rooms** with garage. House nearly new. Ap- plications, Phone 1233 25

**FOR RENT—GARAGES**  
Two (vacant) at \$25 per month each. One located at 123 Woodford St. Other at 515 Ann St. J. J. Watkins, Birmingham, Phone 1233 25

**FOR RENT—OFFICES**  
OFFICE for rent. First National Bank Bldg. Room No. 5. Taylor Const. Co.

**WANTED—MISCELLANEOUS**  
CURTAINS (draperies) lamp shades made to order. Call Birmingham 411 or Glenview 7541.

**WIFE**—Mild, reliable, service or job that radio set for you. D. J. Coy, 101 S. Benning, Birmingham 1811

**FURNITURE repairing and refinishing** Call R. K. Brooks, 245 N. Woodward, Phone 622-W. We can accommodate a few as borders in our sanitary heated kitchen. Birmingham 1112-28

**FOR SALE—MISCELLANEOUS**  
FIREWOOD for sale, mixed, 16-inch ends. Call Birmingham 1811

**CHICKEN**—Coke, chicken, live or dressed. Phone 751-112. E. W. Roach, 13-14 Milk Rd., N. side South Gate 1811

**CHOICE winter apples for sale.** 1100 N.W. and \$1.25 per bushel, delivered. Phone 412-W. Birmingham 752-18.

**FOR SALE—Head staked winter ap- ples.** 1149 a bushel delivered. Phone Birmingham 752-18.

**FOR SALE—HOUSEHOLD GOODS**  
HOFFMANN Electric Range in excellent condition. W. E. Birkin, Tenth Lane. Telephone Birmingham 175-M.

**BOX SPRINGS and hair mattresses made** to order. R. K. Brooks, 245 N. Wood- ward, Phone 622-W.

**FOR SALE—Antique furniture, open** trenching and sundries. 24 1/2 N. Edgewood St., Pontiac, Mich. over the Oakland County Jail. Phone 1995.

**FOR SALE—Very** very reasonable. Call 215. Phone 1995.

**FOR SALE—1110 Cheney** phonograph for \$50. Make any. Good supply of records. Call 332-M.

**HAVE 1500.00 of principal in my 5** room home. Will sacrifice. Call Bir- mingham 904.

**FOR SALE—LAND CONTRACTS**  
LAND CONTRACTS—We buy land con- tracts. Make service. Reasonable amount. Jas. J. Meigs, 211 S. Wash- ington, Royal Oak, 1806.

**FOR SALE—REAL ESTATE**  
FOR SALE—Northwest corner. New- three story office building. 605 E. W. Park. 14 Hawthorne road. 1211

**FOR SALE—LIVE STOCK**  
POLICE pigs for sale. Pedigreed. Bir- mingham E. C. Call at small house in rear of 354 Ferry Avenue, Pontiac. 38



## For Your Dinner CHRISTMAS DAY

WHOLESALE Fresh Fruits and a Bowl or Two of Delicious, Unshelled or Shelled Nuts Should Have a Place on Your Christmas Table!

PLENTY OF BOTH CAN BE BOUGHT HERE AT LOWEST PRICES

- SPECIALS**
- Soft Shelled Pecans 95c PER POUND.
  - Best Walnuts 40c PER POUND.
  - Mixed Nuts 30c PER POUND.

**BIRMINGHAM FRUIT Co.**  
Phone 65 We Deliver

"Peace on Earth, Good Will to Man"

BIRMINGHAM DEPARTMENT STORE

The world's oldest living man is said to be Zoro Kahn of Constantinople, reputed to be 150 years of age; the oldest woman a Persian, who claims to be 146.

WE take this opportunity of Yuletide Rejoicing to thank our customers for their patronage and to wish every-

body a—

MERRY CHRISTMAS

# OLSEN'S MARKET

110 S. WOODWARD PHONES 608 and 609