



The approaching Holiday Season should remind all of us of the sacrifices being made by many of our friends now in the services of Uncle Sam. To them and their Allied comrades in arms, we are forever indebted.

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There'll always be a Christmas



Barbarians from across the seas would, if they could, banish Christmas forever from the earth. But there'll always be a Christmas! May the Christmas season of 1943 find you in the midst of a good old-fashioned Yule celebration.

Merry Christmas from all of us to all of you.

Bits of Birmingham

Pic. Jim Stinson, who for years operated a Linscott at the center, is now undergoing infantry training at Fort McClellan, Alabama. In a recent note back home he says that the infantry's slogan is: "Why ride, when you can walk?"

Do you know that the food wasted in the 10 million meals served daily in public eating places equals the food needed to feed 3 million soldiers one meal? And did you know that fifty per cent of all food wasted both in homes and public places is in the fruit and vegetable group, which is the one place our diets should be stronger?

Colonel H. H. Burdick, real estate editor of the Detroit Free Press, is confined to his home on Hickory Grove road with a broken leg sustained when he fell into an unused grass pit at Stacey's Service Station, Bloomfield Center, the night of Dec. 9.

This column last week noted some of the odd requests received from residents by the police department for assistance in this or that dilemma. But Fire Chief Verne Griffith confronted this Wanderer with one that tops others. At 2:15 a. m. one of these zero mornings, a lady called to say that her furnace had gone out and could a temporary lease be sent at once to start a fire for her? Verne said he was sorry, but he couldn't. What did she have to suggest? Try the police department. So the call was switched there, but we haven't found out what happened.

There were not a few smiles at the expense of one of the town's matrons the other day, when noting a local florist's shop closed, with a wreath hanging in the door, she inquired of a neighboring merchant as to who was dead. Then it dawned. It was Wednesday, a half-day closing for this florist and the wreath was of greens.

This Wanderer concurs heartily with the idea of a citizen who dropped into the office to say that maybe some of the folks around town would like to see to it that the boys from the 728th Military Police Battalion, River Rouge Park, Detroit, receive a Christmas remembrance as a token of their collective civic thanks for the way they cleared up the veritable mountain of parcels and letters that Joe Byrne's regular staff couldn't handle when the flu struck town back around Dec. 10. So the Wanderer and the Citizen put a couple of dollar bills into an envelope and mailed it "To: CHIEF, ARMY Boys Care Birmingham, P. O." They will be on duty there until a day or two after Christmas. You can mail yours or take it in or leave cigarette, whichever is the handiest. But don't forget, without those soldier lads about three quarters of our holiday mail would not be getting to us on time.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Dalton, 487 St. Monica, Calif., sent this Wanderer a clipping from the "Los Angeles Times" telling about a Birmingham woman who offered \$15 a day for a maid. Can you imagine that? Says Mrs. Chaffee: "We were surprised to see this 'Wanted' ad. Weren't we all Mrs. Chaffee?"

Mrs. Richard J. Convey, 784 Shepardsburg, whose "Box 103, Eccentric," class advertisement for a mail has created considerable varieties of reader interest, is ill this week, she has notified us; therefore the second and final installment of her article, scheduled for this issue, will not be published until next week.

'Postal Packin'---

They call WACorporal Betty Freeze of Middletown, O., their "postal packin' mama" at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., but the wide-smiling mail orderly insists she's not related to the gun slinger of the juke boxes. (Signal Corps photo.)

Frank L. Skinner, Seminole aviator, is happy because Birmingham plans to light the Christmas tree. He thinks that the amount of electricity that will be used is so insignificant, when viewed in the light of the symbolical value of the tree, that the electricity really represents a good investment in morale. Mr. Skinner, this Wanderer thinks, is truly, at heart, just a little boy who still believes in the good old-fashioned Santa Claus.

It is impossible to shake the natural romanticism of youth, apparently. Over at Michigan State College for the girls co-eds, they go about the campus in squad formations, are not supposed to glance away, however, improvised various types of gestures that answer the same purpose: some of them even flip the pages of a book they are carrying—to take the place of a wink of the eye. You Sir, Cupid may not be up on airplanes, bombers, or armored trucks—but he still knows how to shoot the arrows.

Due to the scarcity of mechanical toys these war Christmas, it has been suggested that this column offer the following advice to all fathers: Please do not usurp the playthings of your children; let the kiddies get the wear out of such scarce items. (Enroute, this is advised, instead, to devote their mechanical tendencies to the repair of those household items that the wife has been talking about for a long time.)

Ritter's Beverage Store on East Maple was a hive of activity last Saturday afternoon when the movie equipment of the Jam Handy organization of Detroit was unleashed to make a film for the Pabst Brewing Company showing how best to display and distribute the products of that famous name.

Said we to Chris Bailey last Saturday morning as snow started to fall: "Did you bring this with you?" "I did not. A White Christmas is all right, and a fine thing, walking in what we need right now—and how." P.S.—The snow stopped shortly afterward.

If you want a local musical you never pass up a program by Victor Ulrich's Baldwin high girls and boys sang carols for Birmingham Rotarians—and they did it in a manner that was splendid to hear. "You can always bank on good singing from that choir," was the way H. H. Gardner, president of the Birmingham National Bank, put it.

If you were connected with our public school system, how would you feel about the lack of public response at last Monday's special election on two school propositions? Would you think that the public doesn't have much interest in school problems? Or that said public really wants the Board to handle such matters on its own say-so? (Ah, Democracy, where art thy practitioners?)

"The Great Quest," Religious Drama, In 2 Detroit Churches

Everyman's Theatre will present four performances of the original religious drama, "The Great Quest," by Margot Pfeiffer and Walter Koste this Christmas. The play opens on Sunday, Dec. 26, at the Central Wesleyan Christian Church and then moves on to St. Paul's Cathedral for presentations on Tuesday, Dec. 28; Thursday, Dec. 30, and Sunday, Jan. 2. All performances begin at 8 p. m. There is no admission fee. Margot Pfeiffer, a script writer at WWJ, has collaborated with Walter Koste, director of Everyman's Theatre, to tell a gripping myth of what might have transpired the year before the birth of Christ. Excerpts from familiar musical suites, arranged for the organ by Ralph Calder, and detailed period costume provide dramatic and colorful touches to the production. Walter Koste tells this ancient tale in the guise of "The Blind Beggar" and Ernest Rice, Jean Owens, Gene Holliday, Patricia O'Farrell, Sylvia Maguire, Fred Dolan, Barbara Kline, and Jane Surrey are also in the cast.

Barnum Loses, 31-9, To Washington, Pon.

Barnum lost to Washington Junior High School of Pontiac Friday at the Barnum gym, by a score of 31-9. The Pontiac team took an early lead and controlled the play most of the game. Hestor, with 17 points, was leading scorer, followed by Bege with 7 points. Leon Thurston led Barnum's scoring with 5 points. Barnum's starting lineup was: Leon Thurston and Rollie Olin, forwards; Joe Bowen, center; Jack Filkins and Al Anderson, guards. Other boys to play were Charles Murray, Steve Miller, Hugh Morrow, Charles Dunn, Lorin Farrell, George Pope and Bruce Smiley.

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Hunting License Revenues Hold Up Well in 1943

LANSING, Dec. 21—A drop of only 12.9% in license revenues in the first eleven months of the year as compared with the same period in 1942, indicates that most sportsmen are continuing to buy licenses in spite of wartime conditions, state conservation records show.

Collections at the beginning of this month for 145,624 small game licenses were 15% behind collections for the same period in 1942. Non-resident hunting licenses, of which 2,422 were sold, are only 1% less than last year.

Although returns are not complete for deer hunting licenses, sale of 45,467 resident licenses was 19.2% ahead of the corresponding period in 1942, and 20% ahead of camp permits were issued in 1943. Sale of non-resident deer licenses, however, decreased 7.9%.

Sale of resident bow and arrow licenses fell off 5.7%, and non-resident 14.9% from those of the same period last year.

Resident sport fishing license sales dropped 10% and non-resident 35%, while special permits for spearing ciscoes went up 56%. Trapping license sales are on the increase, collections indicate, and 19.5% more have been sold to date than had been sold to the same date in 1942.

Hunting, fishing and trapping licenses collected for the 1943 season to date total more than \$1,280,000.

Honors Assembly Set for January 11

Due to the fact that the National Honor Society could not schedule its luncheon for January 12, the date of the Honors Assembly has again been changed to January 11.

The valedictorian and salutatorian will be announced at the assembly. National Honor Society service awards will be given and honors that have come to Baldwin graduates in the service. It is hoped that friends and parents of boys in service will communicate with the high school to tell them of citations servicemen they know have received so that these honors can be announced at the Honors Assembly. A call to 825, Baldwin office, will take care of name and citation.

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Christmas is a candle in a whirlwind, a flame of hope in a dark and storm-tossed world.

Christmas is a Treasure Chest of mankind's most precious ideals: love, faith, courage, humility, tolerance.

Christmas is a song of peace on earth, goodwill to men, that was first sung by angels on a Judean hillside two thousand years ago.

Christmas is the birthday of the Founder of Democracy who taught that men are sons of God, not puppets of the state, that leaders should be servants of the people and not their masters: that the Golden Rule and not the rule of gold, should guide us.

Christmas is radiant living: It is giving instead of grabbing; loving instead of hating; smiling instead of frowning; helping instead of hindering; lifting instead of leaning; doing instead of dreaming.

Christmas is a shining symbol of our aims in this war.

Christmas is a charter of the things for which we are struggling today.

Christmas is everything that America stands for: it represents the principles for which many Americans, throughout our history, have given up their lives: it is the star toward which we reach.

Christmas is the light of the world, and ours the task to keep it burning. We are fighting for Christmas!

—WILFRED A. PETERSON
In "The Friendly Adventurer"

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