MERRY CHRISTMAS 1947

CHRONICLES OF GINGER FARM

By Gwendoline P Clarke

How many seasons in a year? Four, you say? I think there are five — spring, summer, autumn, winter — and Christmas. Isn't that right? And don't you think it's wonderful to have Christmas come right in the middle of the longest and dreariest season of the year — a season within a season, as it were? Imagine winter without Christmas — weeks and weeks of wintry weather with more darkness than light; days of blizzards followed by a blanket of snow. But then just as we get terribly fed up with the weather, along comes Christmas, Christmas — with all its colour and story, its beautiful traditions and spirit of goodwill. Then, if we are wise, we forget all about the elements and set our hearts in tune for singing.

* * *

Away from home who lets the weather worry them anyway? We say — "Aw, shucks, I'm going home, no matter what!" And if we are among the stay-at-homes we look forward to our folks coming for the Yuletide season. We work and bake and scheme; we trim the tree and wrap the presents, and, although just about tired enough to drop, we greet everyone with a cheery — "Happy Christsmas!"

And have you ever noticed, friends, that with every happy Christmas that we say, some part of it comes back to ourselves? We just can't go around wishing other folk happiness without sharing in it too.

* * *

And another thought: Just as we welcome Christmas in the middle of winter, isn't it also possible to experience an even greater sense of gladness when we remember that in this troubled world, with its threats of war, its strikes, disunity, and its hungry people, there is yet always Christmas, steadfast as a rock, now and forever.

Oh, I know that in many homes Christmas will be little more than a name — the presents, the fun, and good things to eat will be absent. But even so there will be mothers telling little children about the Christ-child that was born long years ago — born to bring peace to a troubled world. And perhaps as she tells it there will creep into many a mother's heart a new hope — a peace that passeth all understanding.

* * *

Friends, don't let bitterness spoil this Christmas season — don't let ourselves think — "Oh, what's the use... all this unrest, all these high prices — where's it all going to end?" Let us give ourselves a Christmas present of faith in the future, and let us be content with the little things of life—the friendly greeting, the little unexpeced kindnesses that come our way, and the happy comfortable feeling that comes to us with every spontaneous desire to help make Christmas a little easier, a little brighter for someone else. And where better could we start than with the children — not just our children, but children everywhere. Christmas and children belong together. Happy the family where young, excited voices and happy, carefree laughter mingle with the deeper tones of the grown folk. Let us make this Christmas — and every Christmas — one for the children to remember. Let them be happy and in their happiness we shall probably find our own.

* * *

..And so friends, in all sincerity, may I wish you a very Happy Christmas. May you be light-hearted and gay, the better to enjoy your friends, your children and YOURSELF—in short, your Christmas. There will be other days — days when we can stew, and fret and fuss — if we must, but this is the Christmas season — this is the time to say "Happy Chrismas, Everybody!" — and mean it.

Ah, what a thought! If a share of each greeting comes back to ourselves what a lot of joy is coming my way because, here am I, sending a message to literally hundreds of people. So I'll say it again — A Happy Christmas to you all!

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Bayberry Candles

Candles, placed in windows on Christmas Eve to light the Christ Child and to welcome wayfarers, have been popular for centuries, but the burning of Bayberry candles is a strictly North American custom which dates from colonial days. Though associated particularly with New England, these aromatic candles glow in windows from coast to coast.

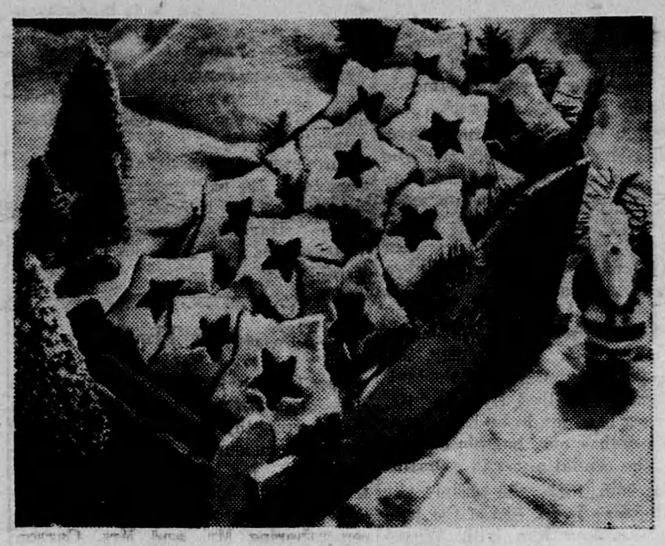
Story of the Tree

We are told that the fir tree goes back to Eve, but it was not until the time of Martin Luther that the evergreen was used as an indoor decoration in celebration of Christmas.

It is said that Luther one Christmas Eve wandered through the woods and became enamoured with the wonder of the night.

He cut a small snow-laden fir tree, and set it up in his home for his children. He illuminated it with candles to represent the stars.

It was not until 1604 that, in Strassburg, the first Christmas tree appeared in literature.



A SLEIGHFUL OF CHRISTMAS GOODIES

As fresh as the Christmas snow, as crisp as the Winter wind. Here's the cookie jar's contribution to a bright and happy Christmas!

These delicious cookies will find a place everywhere in your holiday plans—in the youngsters Christmas stocking—'round the family tree—the grown-up parties.

Stock the cookie jar well with these easy-to-make cookies—for they'll be in great demand this holiday season!

Filled Hermits

⅔ cup butter	1½ teaspoons cinnamon
1 1/3 cups sugar	1 teaspoon cloves
2 eggs	2 teaspoons baking powder
1/3 cup milk	1 teaspoon salt
¾ cups bran	½ teaspoon mace
3½ cups sifted flour	½ teaspoon nutmeg

1 cup mincemeat or preserve

Blend butter and sugar; add eggs and mix well. Add milk and bran. Sift flour with remaining dry ingredients and add to first mixture. Chill. Roll dough to about ⅛-inch thickness on lightly floured board. Cut into stars. Place level teaspoon of mincemeat on half of rounds and cover with remaining rounds. Crimp edges with a fork to hold together. Bake on greased cookie sheet in moderately hot oven (400 degrees F.) 12 to 15 minutes.

Yield: 45 cookies (2¾ inches in diameter).

TEEN-TOWN TOPICS

By BARRY MURKAR

One more week and Christmas will be here. Oh Boy, I'm so full of ideas for a Christmas column I could fill half a paper myself, but why should a paper have half the usual reader interest in a Christmas issue. For example, I was going to tell you how Susie and I put up the Yuletide Tree. I use the term Yuletide only to save on the repetition. Then I thought I would write a nice long Xmas Poem. Also I had an idea for a story on a litle boy's Christmas. It starts out sad and ends up happy as the dickens.

Well, anyway, as this is Christmas, I have written a very short poem for this happy Yuletide occasion.

I'M WAITING

Old Santa is coming, next Thursday night.
If I wake up and see him, I'll croak from fright.
I'll leave a biscuit and a hot cup of tea,
And hope that his bag is half emptied for me.

I'm Waiting

I'll be as good as I can until Christmas Eve comes,
I'll help all my neighbors — even the bums.
I'm as happy, as happy — as happy can be.
I sure hope dear old Santa,
Leaves lots on my tree.
In the meantime — I'm waiting.

Radio — Christmas Day

Up until Christmas and on that day, too, there is heaps of swell listening for you. If it isn't too late for you, you can catch the Leslie Bell singers and Orchestra on Dec. 17 at 9 p.m., presenting carols that are centuries old. On Friday, Dec. 19th at 5.45 p.m., you can listen to "Sounds Fun" and get a good many novel ideas for trimming the tree and wrapping presents. This programme is especially for young people. Old Christmas carols and tales about how they were originated are in store for those who listen on Dec. 20th to "Music Makers" at 12.30 p.m. The above programmes will all be heard on your local C.B.C. station.

On Christmas day there will be the usual specials. The King will make his customary address to the people around 10 in the morning. Throughout the day, there will be continuous Christmas programmes and music on the C.B.C.

One of the feature broadcasts of Dec. 25th will be the famou Elgin Watch 2-hour show from Hollywood, with all your favorite stars. This takes the air at 4 in the afternoon. See your local paper for the station.

TEEN-TOWN REPORTERS

Woodville — Walter Austin — Woodville Teen-Town Club has been meeting on Friday evenings for the past two months. Our enrollment is about 45. This number is divided into four groups, with a convenor at the head of each group. These groups take charge of the meetings in consecutive order. Generally the meetings start with a short devotion, followed by a business period after which games and contests are enjoyed. The recreation is continued with a dance to records and the evening winds up with a lunch provided by the group in charge, with lights out at 11 o'clock.

The staff officers for the year are: Don Robertson, Mayor; Gwen Mayers, Vice Mayor; Betty Goard, Clerk; Bill Goard, Treasurer. Leaders of groups are: Morley Smith, Gwen Penthick, Ruth Imrie and Bill Goard. Cirrespondents are: Jarvis Stoddart and Walter Austin. These guys and gals were really busy a few weeks ago with the Woodville Commencement Exercises.

Merry, Merry Christmas

First of all we would like our Teen-Town Topics reporters, Audrey Harris, Eva Loney, F. Edith Hall, Beverlie Wilson, Velma Davis, Gail Martin and our new correspondent, Walter Austin, to take this opportunity of wishing their many readers the Compliments of the Season. And to this, may Susie and Yours Truly wish the Correspondents, Readers and others who have provided material for columns throughout the year A Merry, Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS Bells by HENRY W LONGFELLOW

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And thought how, as the day had come,

The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good - will to men!

Till, ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime,
A chant sublime
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Then from each black, accursed mouth
The cannon thundered in the South,
And with the sound
The carols drowned
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

It was as if an earthquake rent
The hearth-stones of a continent,
And made forlorn
The households born
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:

"God is not dead, nor doth he sleep!
The wrong shall fail,
The right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men!"

Perfect Job

A Philadelphia woman who went on a reducing diet a month ago has disappeared. That's service for you.

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Permanent guests invited.
Excellent Cuisine.

CENTRAL — Cor. Jarvis and Dundas Sts.
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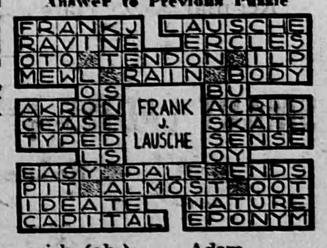
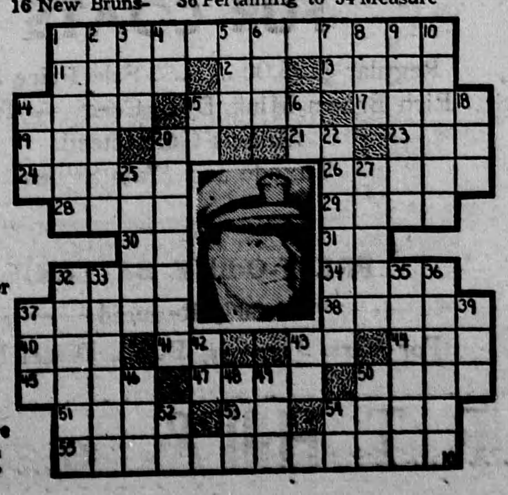
U. S. Naval Leader

HORIZONTAL
1 Pictured U. S. naval leader, Rear-Adm. —— ——, Jr.
11 Silkworm
12 Paid notice
13 Weight deduction
14 Jump
15 Short jacket
17 Hat material
19 Skill
20 Therefore
21 British Columbia (ab.)
23 Wine vessel
24 Flower
26 Musteline mammal
28 Percussion instrument
29 Fog
30 Symbol for rubidium
31 Mountain (ab.)
32 And
34 Seaweed
37 Angler's basket
38 Requires
40 Regiment (ab.)
41 Be quiet!
43 Natural power
44 Entangle
45 Male deer
47 God of love
50 White frost
51 Sicilian volcano
53 Area measure
54 Hindu queen
56 He is deputy commander of the U. S. —— —— forces

VERTICAL
1 Scoffed
2 Speaker
3 Body part
4 Symbol for sodium
5 Chapeau
6 Bustle
7 Right (ab.)
8 Dolt
9 Plays the part of host
10 Protective head covering
14 Race course circuit
15 Daybreak (comb. form)
16 New Brunswick (ab.)
18 Sailor
20 Signs
22 Order
25 Doctor's assistant
27 Heading
32 Mountain crests
33 Musical direction
35 Zodiacal constellation
36 Pertaining to Adam
37 Credits (ab.)
39 Sainte (ab.)
42 Him
43 Bone
46 African animal
48 Knock
49 British account money
50 Royal Air Force (ab.)
52 Near
54 Measure

Answer to Previous Puzzle





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MUT AND JEFF—So You See It's A Merry Christmas All Over The House By BUD FISHER