

# THE HAILEYBURIAN

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THURSDAY, DEC. 22nd, 1955

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

### Department of Highways Appeals For Safe Christmas Driving

An appeal to "everybody to make this a safe as well as a merry Christmas and New Year in Ontario," is made by Highway Minister, the Hon. James N. Allen, in a special pre-holiday safety message.

"Nearly always, the last days-and-nights of each year have been one of Ontario's worst periods for traffic accidents," Mr. Allan warns.

"In this 10-day (and night) period in 1954, a total of 59 people were killed; in the same period in 1953 our traffic death toll mounted to 45. Last year, thanks to the safety efforts of many people and organizations, our death toll was cut in half. A total of 22 lives were lost in the last ten days of the year.

"Despite that tragic loss of lives, last December's record of improvement in life-saving was encouraging. It shows that, enough effort by enough people will save lives and human suffering despite increasing traffic volume and accident possibilities.

"Now we need another all-out effort, supported by everybody. Our greatest Christian hon-

our extra dangers. Many more people are shopping and travelling. Everybody is in a rush and pre-occupied with Christmas affairs. Children are free from school, deliveries in residential areas are heavier, and driving, weather and light conditions are often at their worst.

"Results can be ghastly. In 1953, on the day before Christmas alone, there were 13 people killed in 10 accidents in Ontario. In 1952, eight met death on Christmas Eve and five on Christmas day itself.

"Ontario is not alone in experiencing such tragedies. In other parts of Canada, in Great Britain, and in the United States, the traffic deaths in the peak accident periods such as Christmas and New Years, amount to terrible totals.

"Only by every one of us doing our part can we reduce such tragedies.

"The true Christian spirit of courtesy, care and consideration for others will save lives and human suffering."

#### New Town Clerk

Frank Haskett has been chosen by council as the new town clerk, replacing C. D. Pringle, who resigned. Mr. Haskett has had several years experience in the municipal offices at Virginiatown, and prior to that was purchasing agent at Chesterville mines for 12 years.

A native of Midland, Ont., he is married, and has no children. Mrs. Haskett plans to join him in the New Year, assuming that he can find an apartment in the meantime.

### Flowers FOR YOUR HOSTESS!

Flowers are welcome in every home. And when ordering corsages for the New Year's dance don't forget Whorley—Haileybury's old and dependable florists. But order early—Please.

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL**

**WHORLEY FLORISTS**  
Member F.T.D.  
Phone 357 Haileybury

#### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH—HAILEYBURY, ONT.

##### Christmas Services

Midnight Eucharist—11.30 Christmas Eve  
Carols will be sung.

8.30 a.m. December 25—Holy Communion  
10.30 a.m. —Matins, Holy Communion, (sung)  
7.30 p.m.—Evening Prayer

Everyone Welcome

## Merry Christmas

To all our Readers!

from

The Staff of

### The Haileyburian

JOHN HUNT  
JOHN MacPHERSON

LEIGH DAY  
EVELYN LOGAN

NES McAULAY

### Unselfish Giving at Christmas

By Dr. A. J. Wilson  
Board of Social Service  
United Church of Canada

Christmas shopping has not really got into high gear yet. One of these days it will really happen. Men all of a sudden will remember that they have done nothing towards Christmas. The woman folk who have been planning a long time ahead, and are methodically drawing up their list will really go to town.

Then the problem will arise, what to do with the things that have been bought until the great day dawns. In any home there, of course, are little nooks and corners which can be pressed into service. If these prove too small there are always the neighbours.

The Scrooges among us will not be too happy about all this. They look on it as another method of prying money out of their pocket books. It is all too commercialized they will say; there is too much high pressure advertising and anyway people only give because others are giving.

Now, there may be some truth in this, but what would a mere man do about getting ready for Christmas were it not for advertisements. A popular pastime these days is watch the mere man scanning the newspapers, and not always the funnies and the sporting page but the ladies' wear and toilet advertisements as well. It is alright. How is a man to know otherwise.

When the Scrooges in our midst tell us that the whole celebration of Christmas is an unhealthy custom, each person giving presents because others are doing it they may have something. There is no doubt we are all moved to acting by convention and custom.

We have to keep in the swim or drown. We have a sneaking suspicion though, that many of those who complain about having to bow to convention just want to get out from under the responsibility of doing the generous thing. So even if social pressure make them loosen up a bit it is good for their souls. After all there are those who would rarely spend a nickle on a good cause if custom or convention did not compel them to do so. If so-called commercialization helps to force a man to become unselfish, we are for it even though on general principles we are opposed to compulsion.

But we like to think that this giving and receiving of gifts,

which may be overdone a bit, in certain quarters, has a much deeper purpose and origin than on the surface. It is basically the first Christmas when the greatest gift that man ever received was presented to him.

In these days of wars, hot, cold or warm, days of tension, national and personal greed, it is good to know that during one season of the year at least, we can concentrate on the welfare of others to the exclusion of our own selfish interests. After all that is one of the deep meanings of Christmas.

### Service Station Burns Down Total Loss Tues.

Haileybury had its first major fire of the season Tuesday, when Chas Dobbs' Shell Service Station was destroyed at the south end of town.

Cause of the fire is not yet known, but it is believed possible that the air compressor either exploded, or caused a short circuit, as the fire appeared to have started close to the compressor motor.

Mr. and Mrs. Dobbs said that they were sleeping early Tuesday morning when Leonard Johnson of the Ideal Dairy hammered on their door, to tell them that their garage was burning.

Jail Guard L. Childs who lives nearby turned in the alarm, and with Mr. Johnson and other neighbors helped remove a 1953 model car from the garage. The car suffered smoke damage, but escaped serious damage.

Haileybury volunteer fire department turned out in the 30 below weather to fight the blaze. Fire Chief Ken Watson hitched up the old pumper to the Lawlor street main, and ran two lines to the blaze.

The firemen managed to prevent the flames from spreading to the adjoining residence, but could not save the garage. Exploding oil drums and intense heat and smoke made it impossible to get too close to the blaze.

Mr. Dobbs estimated that he lost \$1,000 in equipment in the fire, as well as the building. It was only partly covered by insurance.

### Local Old Timers Remember Some Christmases Past

By Mrs. J. H. McDonald

"Christmas will soon be here." What magic visions those words bring into our minds, for Christmas, of all times of the year, is a time for memories, a time for looking back not only to our own childhood, and to the years when small children were in our homes, but to the old and ever new story of that wondrous star that led the shepherds and the wise men to the little stable in Bethlehem, where the Christ child lay.

We may have customs that are dear to us, many special ways of celebrating Christmas, hanging of stockings, (a custom which unfortunately seems to be dying out,) decorating windows and doors and trimming gay Christmas trees, and I wonder if, as we trim those trees, we ever stop to think about why we have Christmas trees, who first thought of them or how long they have been used in homes?

A young German immigrant, named August Imgrad, came from his native Bavaria when he was 21 years old, to join other members of his family in Wooster, Ohio, and to please his little niece and nephew, and no doubt to satisfy a longing for home and its well-remembered customs several days before Christmas he cut a spruce tree, got the village tinsmith to make a star for the top and fashioned decorations from paper. It was such a novelty that the next year, almost everyone in the village had their own Christmas tree, and so the custom spread all over the North American continent.

Last week, in preparation for this column, I chatted with a few of the people who have lived in or around Haileybury since Mr. Craig, "we were all one that time that we oldtimers like to call "the early days."

Mrs. Valentine, on Blackwall Street, recalls that she came to Cobalt in 1909, to join her husband, who was connected with mining.

She had two babies and had but lately came from England and tho the ways of the north were

strange, they were friendly. However, of her early Christmases, she says she does not remember much about them, except that during those few years, three more babies arrived, her husband and one of the children contracted typhoid fever and she was so concerned in nursing them back to health and looking after the rest of the family, that she did not have much time to absorb memories. Now, however, her children are grown and Mrs. Valentine who is eighty years young, is enjoying her grandchildren.

Eimer Campbell, in answer to the question when did you come to Lemiskaming?" replied "I was born here," so we haven't found out just when he came. But he did say that his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Campbell, came north in 1896 and settled on the West Road.

He was one of four children and he remembers how they hated to go to bed early on Christmas Eve. Although they went to the school in Haileybury, in the Christmas season, they with all the other neighbours, attended the Christmas concerts in the Clover Valley school, driving there, of course, with horses and sleighs, "and" remarked Mr. Campbell with a chuckle, "the roads weren't snowplowed in those days, either."

Another Haileyburian who remembers Christmas in the early days is Sam Craig. When he first came to the north he stayed with his brother, William Craig, who lived out Clover Valley way, and had as his neighbors, the Flemings the Kristines, the Neilsons, Olaf and Swan, and the William Plaunts, "and," says Mr. Craig, "we were all one that time that we oldtimers like to call "the early days."

Dances in the homes and Christmas concerts are treasured memories and Mr. Craig recalls one gathering held in the home of C. C. Farr. Everyone present had to do something towards the program and the con-

(Continued on Page 5)

Why not bring your family and friends to

## Hotel Haileybury

#### Christmas Day Dinner Menu

12 p.m. to 1.30 p.m.	6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Telephone 100 for Reservations	
Stuffed Celery Sticks	Olives Sweet Pickles
Sliced Tomatoes	
Cream of Celery Soup	
Roast Turkey with Baked Virginia Ham, Dressing	
Cranberry Sauce	
Creamed Mashed Potatoes	Baked Sweet Potatoes
Cauliflower	Brussel Sprouts
Parker House Rolls, Sliced Bread, Melba Toast	
Butter	
Ice Cream with Fruit Topping and Christmas Cake	
Tea	Coffee Milk

Hotel Haileybury Management and Staff Wish You All  
A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year