

# Across the Kitchen Table

By MRS. MAC

I wonder how many of us read and enjoy W. B. T. Smiley's column, "Sugar and Spice," that is carried in many of the weeklies. His pithy comments on the attitude of some people towards Christmas in last week's column express my sentiments so well that I can't resist quoting part of it, because what he says is quite true, it isn't Christmas that is in the wrong, it's us. Now here is Mr. Smiley's opinion: "I'm getting a bit weary of hearing people say they're sick of Christmas. It's becoming fashionable to emit such sentiments" as: "It's so darn com-

mercialized" or "Christmas is just a big pain in the neck" or "I don't enjoy Christmas any more, I'm absolutely worn out." Piffle and poppycock. It's not Christmas that is commercialized, it's our society. Don't bet there won't be a sharpie out there selling souvenir buttons or cold drinks on the day of the Second Coming.

It's not Christmas that's the big pain in the neck. It's some of the so-called Christians who celebrate it — worrying, complaining, grabbing, sweating, pushing, whining—in a perfect frenzy of self-interest as the glorious day approaches.

Let's just ask ourselves whose fault it is if the Christmas season is a headache instead of a joy, if there are huge bills to be paid after Christmas instead of enough pennies left in the purse to pay the milk bill until payday comes around again, or if we have a feeling of shame instead of satisfaction when we are reminded of our actions during our "celebrations." Christmas is what we make it, and if we commercialize it by wondering if the gift we give the Jones' cost as much as the one they will be giving us, if we teach our children to think of Christmas as a time for getting, not giving, and if, instead of consecrating the birthday of the Christ Child, we desecrate it by drunkenness and wild celebrations, that is definitely our own fault, not the fault of Christmas. So let's try to make this Christmas one to be remembered happily instead of with a "bad taste in our minds."

Many people have the idea that "Christmas is for children," which is quite true, but it is for everyone else as well. And we should remember, in the midst of the hurrying and scurrying that characterizes the season nowadays, that Christmas is really a "holiday" and not just a holiday.

There are too many stock questions asked as Christmas nears, that, to me, should have nothing to do with the Christmas season at all. Practically every child is asked "what do you want Santa to bring you?" with seldom a thought of suggesting that the child plan gifts for others. Sunday night a small ten year old who was at our home for dinner came out to the kitchen and said to me "you know, this is going to be the best Christmas for me because I've earned the money for all my Christmas presents myself, Mom won't have to give me any money at all to buy them" Wasn't that wonderful? Then there's that eternal question, "Have you got your Christmas crock yet?" Why any one should consider that Christmas should be celebrated with a crock is beyond my comprehension.

It will be nice if everyone does a bit of decorating in response to the request of town organizations and council. It will certainly add to the appearance of the town, especially if other themes as well as Santa and his reindeer are displayed. It's amazing what can be done with very little if ingenuity and imagination are added in large amounts.

It's not too early to start thinking about some original place cards, either for a children's party or, conversation pieces for adults. Myrtle the Turtle and Sam the Snowman are easy to assemble and the Gumdrops are cute as can be. Besides, the children will love to take over for you and make them all by themselves.

### Myrtle the Turtle

Take half a walnut shell, paint if desired, and press a gumdrop into inside cover. Pierce the gumdrop with a toothpick, preferably of same color as shell has been daubed. At one end of toothpick affix a raisin to form the head. Four cloves stuck into gumdrop at appropriate distance form the legs. If the turtle is to be used as place-card holder, just use its tail to pierce the card.

### Snowman Sam

Secure three dried marshmallows together vertically with a toothpick to form the body and head. If no stale marshmallows are available, let fresh ones stand at room temperature out of the box for a day, as fresh

# New Books At Library

Among the books that the Haileybury Public Library has received from the Regional Library are "God and My Country" by McKinley Kantor; "High are the Mountains", Hannah Closs; "The Spiral Road", Jan de Hartog; "The Wheel of Earth", Helga Sandburg; and "The Unforgiven" by Alan LeMay.

ones are too soft to use. Half a small gumdrop pressed into front of each lower marshmallow gives the effect of a coat. The face can be made out of raisins and gumdrop chips.

The chips form the eyes and mouth, while strips of raisins can be made into bushy eyebrows, and two long ones placed horizontally from a rakish mustache.

Two different colored gumdrops stuck onto top of head with toothpick form a hat, and, if you can find a little colored feather to place next to them, your snowman will have a dashing appearance. If he is to be used as place-card holder, insert toothpicks for arms, upon which to hang place card.

### Gumdrops Girls

Secure a lollipop onto a gumdrop, the latter then forms a pedestal. Glue confetti, macaroni (or rice if the latter is not available) onto cellophane wrapper of lollipop, using your own ingenuity to form features. An amazing number of expressions can be obtained.

According to the results of the face or the scheme of the decorations, cut out 3" x 5" pieces of colored papers. These become the dresses when secured around the stick of the lollipop with wire cleaners of which the ends form arms. One "hand" can hold a place card, while the other can be decorated with a sprig of holly or a little pine cone.

# News from the Evelyn Shoppe

### AFTER-FIVE ENCHANTMENT

The soft glow of candle light enhances the beauty of a frosty white satin brocade evening dress that is waiting for you at the Evelyn Shoppe. It has a plain sheath top, with oval neckline and tiny cap sleeves, to accent the detailing of the hemline. Low placed pleats at the back swirl into a draped front, caught up at one side with a large soft bow. This is an original Junior Vogue.

Another dream come true, that suggests stardust and moon beams is of ombre silk organza over soft taffeta, (fashion decrees a much softer bouffancy this season), featuring its own crinoline. The bodice is gently shirred and has two tiny tubular shoulder straps. The colors shade from pale cream to shimmering golden yellow. One silk and velvet rose draws attention to the tiny waistline.

Everything that Milady could desire for evening wear is waiting at the Evelyn Shoppe; stoles in lace and velvet as well as sheer wool and orlon; gloves of all kinds, including washable white kid and stretchy satin with tiny buttons at the wrist in order that the hand may be turned back without removing the entire glove; necklaces of iridescent bubble beads with earrings to match in shaded tones of pale greens, pink and creamy beige; another set particularly suited for evening wear has a little pear shaped Aurora borealis stone on a silver chain with matching earring at an unbelievably low price.

A filmy lace handkerchief would be smart tucked into your evening bag or enclosed in a Christmas card.

THE Evelyn SHOPPE

# STRAND THEATRE Haileybury

Haileybury phone OSborne 2-3533

THURS., FRI. & SAT.

DEC. 17-18-19

## "IT HAPPENED TO JANE"

Doris Day, Jack Lemmon, Ernie Kovacs

ADDED FEATURE

## "THE MYSTERIANS"

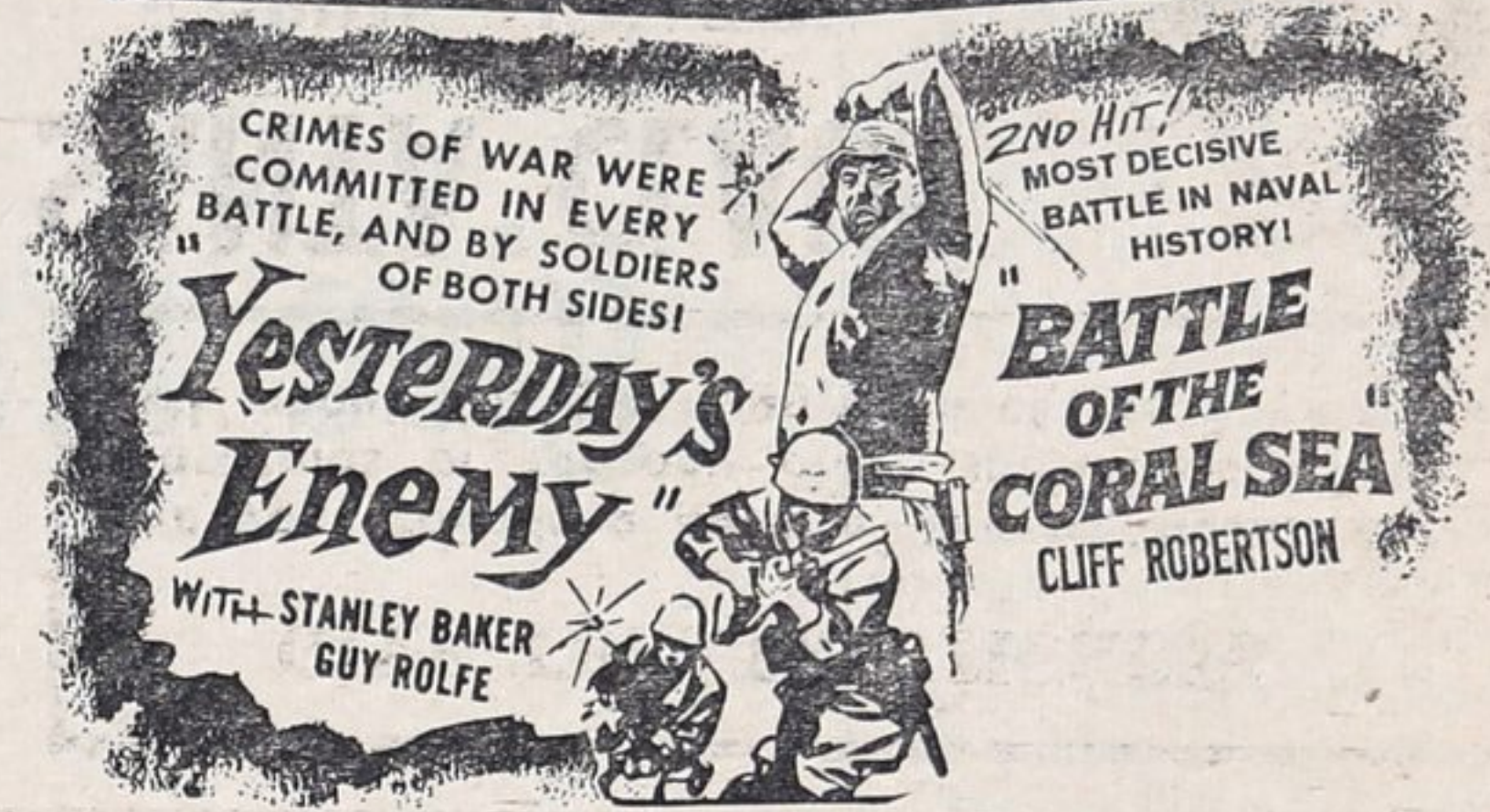
An Exciting New Japanese Science-Fiction Thriller!

Filmed in CINEMASCOPE and COLOR

Sun. Mid., Mon., Tue. Wed.

Dec. 21-22-23

### THE CRIMES OF WAR!



ONLY EIGHT DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS

# EMPIRE

### PERFORMANCES

Mon. to Sat. doors open at 6:30 p.m. Shows at 7 & 9 on single bill  
On Double Feature last complete show at 8:15 p.m.

FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH IS FAMILY NIGHT  
— CHILDREN ADMITTED FREE WITH PARENTS

### GIVE THEATRE TICKETS

Give your friends a book of theatre tickets this Christmas or for any other special occasion. Ask about this gift suggestion at the Theatre.

## SANTA CLAUS

is coming to the  
EMPIRE THEATRE

Thurs. - 6:30 to 7:30  
Sat. - 1:30 to 2:30

GIFTS FOR THE KIDS



THURS., FRI. & SAT.

DEC. 17 - 19

## "TEN TALL MEN"

COLOR  
Burt Lancaster



starring ROCK HUDSON • DONNA REED • PHIL CAREY • ROBERTA HAYNES  
Screen Play by IRVING WALLACE and ROY HUGGINS • Based upon the novel, "Ten Against Caesar" by K. R. G. Granger  
Produced by LEWIS J. RACHMIL • Directed by RAOUL WALSH

MON., TUES. & WED.

DEC. 21-22-23

## "SALOME"

TECHNICOLOR  
Rita Hayworth, Stew. Granger  
WEDNESDAY MATINEE AT 2 P.M.



Charlie bought  
A Christmas tree  
That was dry  
As it could be!  
He didn't put  
The trunk in water—  
He didn't even  
Know he ought 'er!  
He didn't check  
The lights before  
He strung them round  
The tree—the door!  
On Christmas Eve;  
While smoking, he  
Set fire to the  
Christmas tree!  
He burned it  
And his residence;  
And lost his chance  
For Christmas presents...  
'Cause Santa couldn't  
End his trip—  
Fire had ruined  
His landing strip!

Christmastime brings  
extra fire hazards!

Remember to take  
extra precautions:

Best wishes for a happy  
accident-free holiday!

CIA CO-OPERATORS  
INSURANCE  
ASSOCIATION

OFFICES IN BELLEVILLE, GUELPH,  
HAMILTON, LONDON, OTTAWA,  
OWEN SOUND, PORT ARTHUR,  
SARNIA, SAULT STE. MARIE,  
TORONTO AND WINDSOR