



REMEMBER WHEN? Mrs. Ida Theford and Harold Getty took a look into yesterday when they and other members of the Halton Centennial Manor toured the county museum, during Christmas open house. They were amused at an old wood stove.—(Staff Photo)

Memories of youth

Manorites enjoy yule tea, tour of museum

"Many is the night I went home to warm my feet by one of those," Mrs. Ida Theford commented as she and several other Halton Centennial Manor residents toured Halton County

Museum, Wednesday.

Mrs. Theford was speaking about a wood stove exhibit at the museum similar to one her mother used to own. A man

nearby, Harold Getty, added "they sure gave fine heat."

Another resident, Bill Rolfe was fascinated at some of the woodwork on display. "Will you look at that joint? It's strange they could make such fine joints in those days with such crude equipment and now with all the refined equipment they can't do as well. They must have been really clever then, or really stupid now," he declared.



ATTRACTIVE LAURIE MacNAB pours Christmas tea for guests at Halton County Museum. Many guests from the Halton Centennial Manor attended the tea one day. Pictured are Elmer McKinny and with him a friend David Manzie. Mr. Manzie began to grow his beard on New Year's Eve last year.—(Staff Photo)

Considerate host doesn't push drinks

A bit of liquor at a party oils the wheels of social intercourse. But it also could mean that the guest who over-indulges is facing trouble—arrest or accident or both.

In an earlier day, there was no reason for party-goers to stint on their imbibing. As long as a man could keep from topping off his horse, he had a good chance of getting home safely.

Not so when he's guiding two tons of steel. Then, a slight error of judgment can endanger himself and others.

Most people realize that. They realize that alcohol is involved in about half of all traffic crashes the year around, a figure undoubtedly much higher during the festive holiday season. So if they are planning to drive, they want to pace themselves quite carefully.

The considerate host or hostess will respect such wishes. They will plan a party so that it will be easy for guests to enjoy themselves while going easy on the hard stuff. In addition to planning how to start a party off with a bang, they'll plan to end the party with maximum safety for guests who will drive.

Here are some suggestions from the Hamilton Automobile Club's "First a Friend... Then A Host" program:

- 1. Do not force drinks on guests who will be driving.
- 2. Have a good selection of non-alcoholic beverages or low-alcoholic mixtures available.
- 3. Instead of mixing drinks, try a self-service bar. Guests who mix their own usually have less potent drinks and fewer

4. Prove your lavishness as a host with a tempting display of food throughout the party.

5. Begin pushing desserts and coffee, and de-emphasizing drinks well before the end of the party.

6. Tactfully encourage a guest who may have over-imbibed to sober up before leaving, or arrange his transportation home as a passenger.

We believe such suggestions are realistic. They won't put a damper on any holiday celebration.

Wednesday's trip to the museum was the first such trip for residents of the county home for the aged in Milton. Christmas teas, an annual highlight of the season around the museum, had started that day and the staff made sure the invitation was extended to the senior citizens of Halton. It offered the residents a chance to get out and socialize, and most of them appreciated the opportunity as the exhibits around the converted barn at Kelso reminded them of their youth.

Hearts turn homeward in Christmas season

Christmas is that time of the year when most every heart turns homeward.

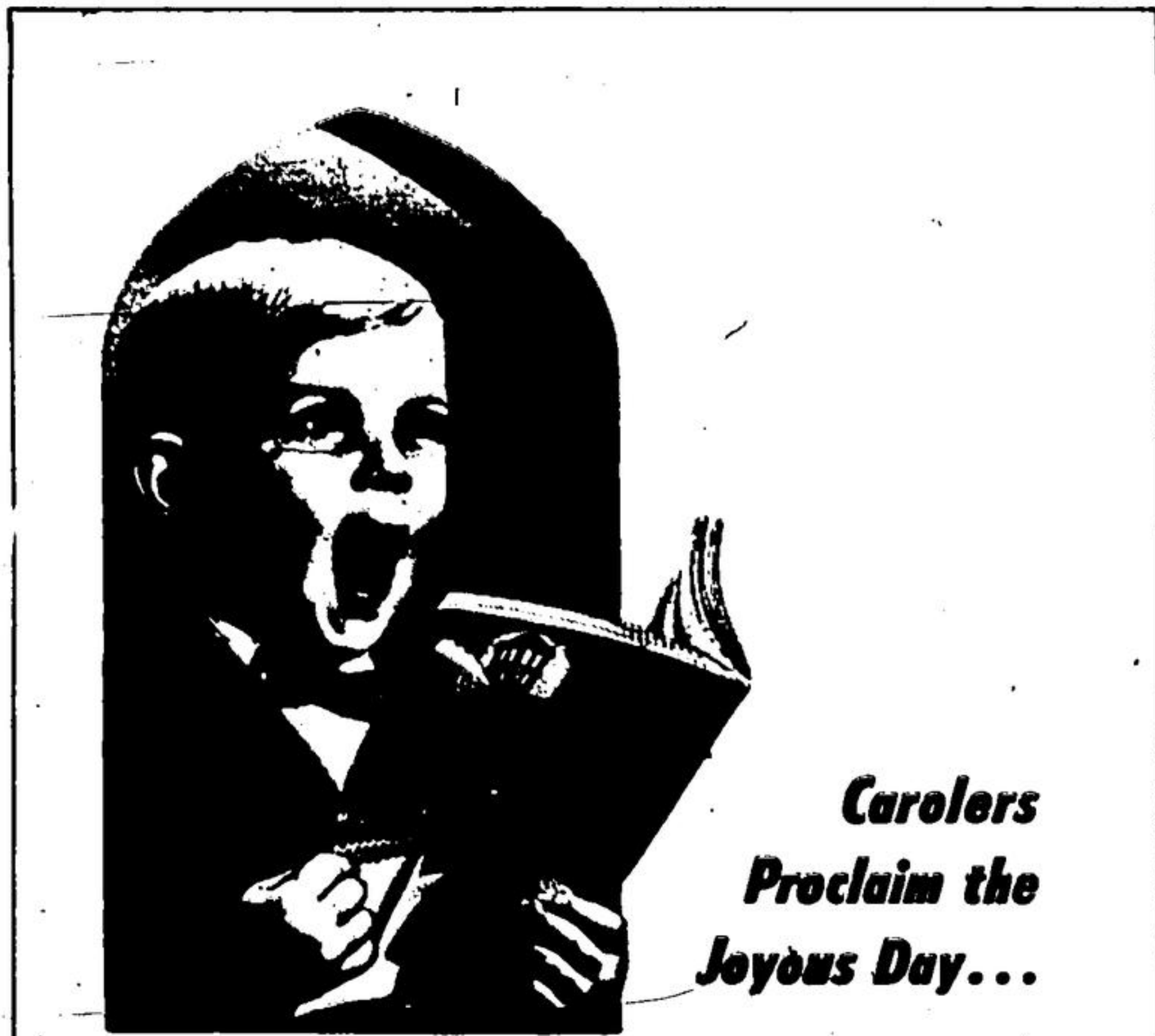
The blinking lights of a Christmas tree in the window or the jingle jangle of Christmas bells is enough to send one's thoughts winging across the years and over the mountains and seas to that "one best Christmas of all" so long, long ago.

The sounds and the smells of Christmas are so easily captured... freshly cut evergreen, a basket of fruits and nuts, cookies and pies, turkey roasting in the oven, the pop-pop-popping sound of logs burning low in a hearth fire.

How easy today for the crunching sound of boots in the

snow to bring the memory of long ago when young hearts trudged across the crusty fields toward the light that beckoned through the church window, a haven of warmth and peaceful reverence in the near-dawn of a Christmas morn.

How easy to recall the sight of a family gathering about the tree, first for a moment of prayer and thanksgiving and then the merry sounds, the laughter as one by one, each opened a gift from beneath the tree.



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