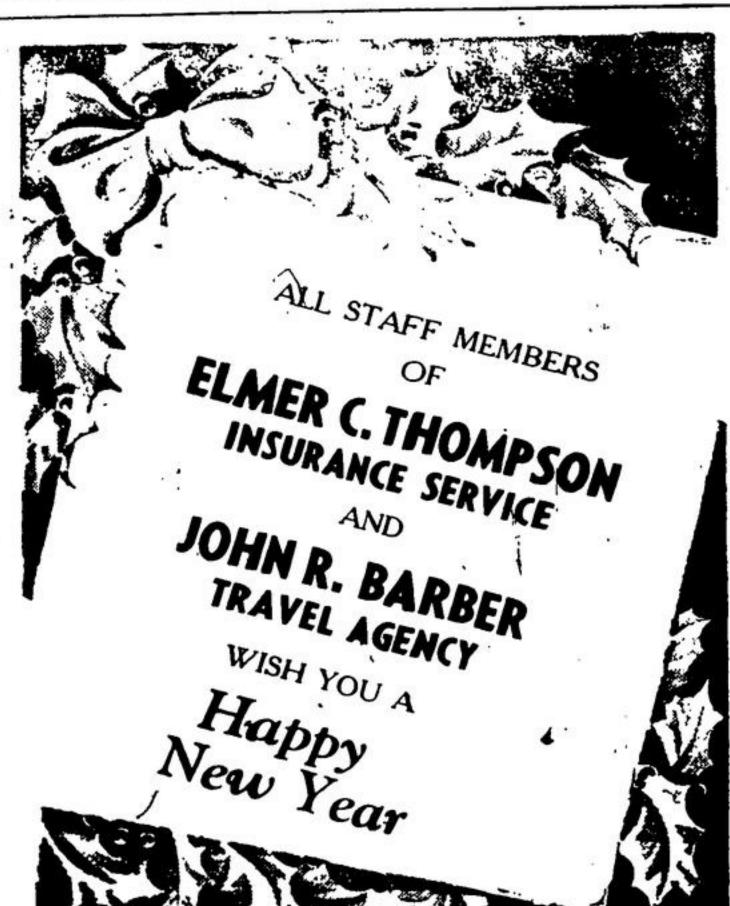


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The compliments of the holiday season, and thanks for patronage extended to us in 1951.

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With best wishes for your happiness in 1952.

Fred Sinclair

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The Editor's Corner

CHRISTMAS MAIL

In spite of a doubling in postal rates, there was no slack in the Christmas card trade according to postmaster Gordon Cousens. ...

Local mailings which were figured from December 14th until Christmas day exceeded 100,00 cards as far as can be estimated, which was up some 20 per cent over last year. There are more people in town, of course, which can account for some increase, but it might have been expected that this year when the postage rate was increased to 2c there would be many people who would pare down their lists. Apparently this did not occur.

Parcel mail, Col. Cousens estimates was about the same as usual. There was good cooperation from they public, both in tying cards in bundles with all stamps in one corner and in separating out-of-town mail from local and keeping first class mailings separate altogether. This sees countless hours of sorting at the post office and means better service, both in mailing to outside points and in sorting incoming letters.

Three extra helpers were taken on for the seasonal rush - Doug Latimer, home for vacation from Toronto University, Mrs. David Williams, who as Teresa Curtis was a post office employee before her marriage, and Ron Denham. The regular staff were all on the job and they deserve a pat on the back - Harold Marshall, Frances Deans, Jim Collier, Mrs. William McDonald, Blake Inglis and Fanny Weaver.

They kept up with mailings all week and had the bulk of it cleaned up by Friday afternoon. On Monday a heavy volume of incoming mail was received from Toronto but this too was sorted and put in the boxes before the supper hour.

POT POURRI

Ward Ruddell, who has made quite a hobby of collecting birds, takes us and Agar Ostrander to task for reporting a goldfinch which didn't go south. Mr. Ruddell says goldfinches don't go south at all. The male of the species actually changes his bright coat for a more subdued one in the winter. Apparently the bird that Mr. Ostrander saw was fooled by the mild weather and had failed to "put 'em on" . . . It was reported in a news item recently that Mrs. Jean Brown Eby who died in Toronto was a sister of the late Mrs. Montague Merryday. This was incorrect. Mrs. Eby was a cousin of Mrs. Merryday

. . . And still referring back to columns of past weeks, Mrs. Perc Coffin advances a plausible theory of what happened to a shopper's week-end roast. The roast, you may remember, was removed from a baby buggy while the lady was doing more shopping and we remarked that it was a pretty mean trick. Mrs. Coffin says, that on two occasions she has seen meat snatched by dogs from baby carriages and rescued one parcel one day and returned it to the owner. Charlie Day also reports that one day he helped rescue a parcel of meat that had been taken from a baby carriage, and carried underneath a car. where the dog was proceeding to eat it. It's something we never thought of, and chances are many shoppers never have thought of it either, so we pass it along as a tip to the ladies - don't leave meat parcels in the baby buggy . . . A reader, impressed with the accomplishments of Miss Isabella Preston in the floral world suggests that it would be fitting for the town to call one of its streets after her. and plant the beautiful flowering crabs which she developed along its boulevards . . . Lots of Social & Personal items in this issue and we hope to have as many more next week. Readers are reminded that we appreciate hearing of their visits and visitors and a phone call to No. 8 in the daytime or 651 after hours helps us to keep up a good social column . . . Worthy of note in the Christmas scene are the lighting decorations in the Baptist Church spire. We have heard that they can be seen as far away as the Norval hill. Much appreciated too were the Christmas carols reproduce I over the St. John's Church loudspeaker in the early evenings near Chri tmas. The heavy snows and brisk, cold air made it a

perfect Christmas for anyone who didn't have to travel.

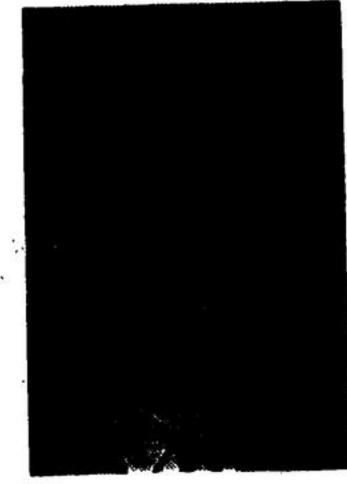
BALLINAFAD

Candlelight Service At Ballinafad Church

A Christmas candlelight service was held in the church Sunday evening. Beginning the program several carols were sung to the accompaniment of the Churchill Orchextra. Mrs. N. Sinclair then took charge and led in the candlelight service. Candles representing friendship and sympathy for people of other lands were lit by Marjorie Warne, Ruth Shortill, Ruth Marsh? all, Mrs. F. Smith, Miss Hilts and Mrs. Jamieson. Solos were sung by Janice Baker and Shirley Mack and Beth McEnery recited the Indian carol. George and Marjory Gibson sang a duet "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child." The Christmas story in pictures was shown by Mr. Gibb and narrated by Mrs. Jesse McEnery.

The Blue Mountain concert was held Thursday night in the hall! A splendid program was given by the pupils under the direction of their teacher, Mrs. Jack Lawson. Lunch was served and dancing followed to bring a very enjoyable evening to

Mr. and, Mrs. William Gibb, Bruce and David are spending the holidays with friends in Gelt and St. Thomas.



MAYOR RESIGNS

Because of a severe heart attack Mayor-Elect Thomas Salmon of Acton resigned last week. He defeated Mayor Ted Tyler in the recent municipal elections in our neighbouring town.

DIES IN KITCHENER

Word was received today of the death in Kitcheper of Mrs. F. S. Querin, mother of Mrs. Garfield McGilvray.

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