

Spirit of Christmas Rules Community Celebrations

It's Christmas time! Everywhere, glad sights and sounds reflect the spirit of the season, as this community celebrates the joyous holiday.

The spirit of Christmas is seen, in gaily decorated streets and stores, in homes aglow with light, and festive with evergreens, in churches where the manger scene tells anew the wonderful old story of a holy Babe who was born in Bethlehem nearly two thousand years ago.

The spirit of Christmas is heard, in bells ringing out from street corner to street in happy voices singing all the songs of the season, from old familiar carols to the more solemn, but at the same time joyful, anthems, cantatas and oratorios.

The spirit of Christmas is felt, as last minute preparations for the big celebration are made. There are always, it seems, some packages still to be wrapped, some final trimmings to be put on the tree, some part of the Christmas pageant or choral program that needs just one more rehearsal, some extra touches to make the Christmas feast absolutely perfect.

In the midst of the bustle and bustle, the spirit of Christmas shines through in all its many meanings.

The spirit of Christmas means laughter and joy — best expressed, perhaps, by the faces of children, eager and smiling as they wait for Santa, full of reverent wonder as they hear the Christmas story and see the manger scene.

The spirit of Christmas means giving, with love wrapped into every package. And it means sharing — the riches of thought, full consideration and genuine interest, as well as time and money — with the aged, the ill, the needy and unfortunate.

The spirit of Christmas means a warm renewal of family ties and close friendships, and an enjoyment of traditions treasured through the years — the special customs each family creates for itself, as well as the traditions garnered from the lore and legends of Christmas.

Making the Day
As a holy day and a holiday, Christmas means both prayerful worship and festive merry-making. The holy meaning of the day is expressed in its name.

The Latin name for Christmas translates as the Feast of Birthday of Our Lord. The English Christmas means the Mass of Christ, a meaning which is closely paralleled by the Dutch "Kermis." In German it's "Weihnacht" or sacred night. The French "Noel" has several possible meanings—news, birthday or a "bout of joy." Whatever the exact origin, there's no question that Noel now means Christmas.

How The Tree Grew
When the German prince Albert married Queen Victoria,

WANDERING BEAGLE HOME AGAIN FOR CHRISTMAS

Butch, with the crooked tail, the wandering bound owned by Roy Tizzard M.M. 1, Glen Williams is home again after a year's absence, his second extended leave, in the past six years.

Butch, whose principle characteristic, outside of the Z in his tail, is his wanderlust, wagged his fractured extremity in recognition of his master last week, when he hit the house and after being driven home from Mimico. That's where he was discovered wandering the streets by Mr. Tizzard's son Jack who lives in the neighbouring Alderwood.

Four years ago Butch trotted into the Tizzard laneway and up to the farmhouse ending a two year disappearance. Whether or not the nomadic Beagle takes a notion to walk off and stay away or is kidnaped each time is still a mystery.

He's labeled Butch with the crooked tail to distinguish him from the pack. Mr. Tizzard has a number of Beagles — all named Butch.

When Caroling Began

With the joyful strains of "Silent Night," "The First Noel" and other beloved carols, today's carolers carry on a meaningful Christmas custom that originated centuries ago.

As early as the fourth century A.D., a musical poem was sung in honour of St. Basil and his victory over the Byzantine emperor Julian in Greece. Legends of St. Basil were later put to music and sung at Christmas and the New Year.

The first real Christmas carols, however, were probably sung in the Italian mountain village of Greccio when St. Francis of Assisi created the first manger scene in 1223. He and his brethren led the villagers in singing hymns of praise to the Christ Child.

Source of Giving
Giving gifts at the Yuletide season has many precedents. In the years before Christ, Romans gave branches of laurel, olive any myrtle to each other at the Saturnalia, a pagan festival that occurred about the same time as the present date of Christmas. In England and Northern Europe, Druid worshippers tied gifts on trees during the Yule festival held at the winter solstice.

Roman emperors often demanded Yule gifts of clothing, gold and silver from their subjects and so did the kings and queens of England. It is said that Queen Elizabeth I gained most of her wardrobe through these compulsory gifts.

In later years the idea of giving in a spirit of kind-hearted generosity developed.

COUNTY COUNCIL BRIEFS

At the December meeting of Halton County Council in Milton last week, Council approved the hiring of Wayne Harrison for the Manor staff.

Council accepted the tender of Zorge Construction Co. Ltd., for the construction of a greenhouse at the Halton Centennial Manor at an estimated cost of \$2,464. It is hoped to construct the greenhouse under the Winter Works programme.

Council referred to next year's council a suggestion that a county ambulance be studied. They also welcomed the one new face which will appear at next year's council table, that of Roy Goodwin, newly elected Deputy Reeve of Acton, who was there as a spectator.

They approved the appointment of F. A. Phillips, an ex-warden of the County, as the County appointee to Oakville Board of Education, and the appointment of William Davidson to the Burlington Board of Education.

They also learned that a warden's life is a busy one, when Warden Gordon Gallagher reported that he had attended 38

County Council and Committee meetings in the last three months.



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THE STORY OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST has, for centuries, been an inspiration to artists. The Nativity, the journey of the shepherds, the journey of the Wise Men and the Madonna and Child have been the subjects of hundreds of beautiful paintings. "The Madonna and Child," shown here, is by Vincenzo Foppa, a Milanese painter of the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries. It is painted in tempera on wood. From the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The Theodore M. Davis Collection, Bequest of Theodore M. Davis, 1915.



At this joyous time, when hope and good spirits are high, we express appreciation for your continued loyalty, and wish you the best of everything for Christmas as always. Thank you.

FROM **JOHN LENZ**
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

65 Mill Street Georgetown

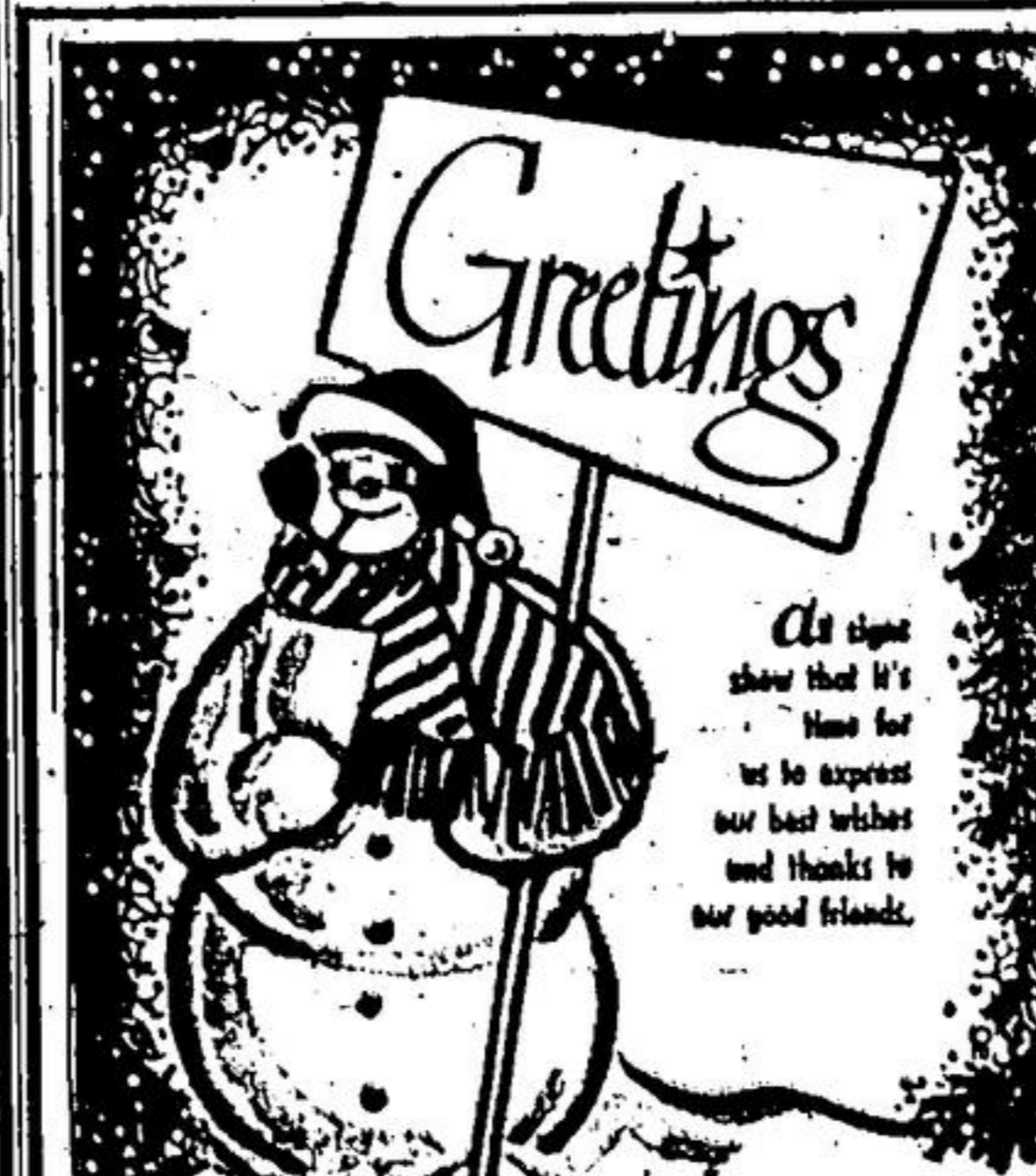
Christmas Blessings



We greet you with the wish that, for all of us, the meaning of Christmas may be ever deeper, its hopes brighter, its blessings greater.

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As signs show that it's time for us to express our best wishes and thanks to our good friends.

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Award Contract for New 150 Bed Home for Aged

County Council last week awarded the contract for the new 150 bed Home for the Aged adjacent to the present Halton Centennial Manor, to Lynch Richards Construction Co. at a price of \$1,374,049. The total cost is expected to be \$1,800,000.

Chairman of the Manor Board, Reeve C. A. Martin stressed the project's urgency. He claimed that the building would be ready for use by the end of 1965.

Present plans call for a 150-bed home, with the addition of 180 beds provided for at a later

date. The services for the complete 300 beds will be installed in the first phase of the building. This will increase the per bed cost of the first addition, but will decrease the cost considerably on the second, according to Dr. Martin.

The new three storey home provides for approximately fifty beds on each floor, with special care patients on the main floor and bed care patients on the second and third floor levels. Two elevators will be included in the building.

The infirmary, a medical cen-

re, exam. room and laboratory, will be housed on the second floor.

Most of the accommodation provided is two and four bed rooms with a majority holding two.

The present 225 bed manor will be connected to the new home by an underground passageway, enabling residents to use its existing chapel, auditorium and laundry.

You can't teach an ignorant person anything unless you can first accomplish the difficult task of convincing him he's ignorant.



Christmas is our community in a special time, when friends and neighbors get together, and their spirit is renewed. May we wish you a Christmas season that's filled with joy and love.

MERRY CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Bob, Glad and Ed Caldwell and Staff



We're taking a tip from Santa and extending our very warmest wishes for a merry Yuletide to our many good friends and patrons.

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