

Currie Interested, May Seek 1969 Wardenship

George Currie, Reeve of Esquesing, hinted strongly he will seek the warden's hat in the ring for the wardenship of Halton County in 1969.

A veteran of forty four years in politics, he last served as Warden of Halton County in 1936.

Since his introduction into politics in 1926, he has served in every political office in Esquesing, most frequently as deputy reeve or reeve, and has probably attended more county council meetings than anyone in the area.

The rumour factory has three candidates for the wardenship now. Reeve Austan Ledwith of Milton, Reeve Alan Day of Oakville, and Reeve George Currie of Esquesing.

Esquesing feels it is the town's turn since the last time a warden came from Esquesing was 1962, when Wilfrid Bird filled the warden's chair, and died in office. Nine years previously, in 1953 George Leslie an Esquesing Reeve, served as warden of Halton County.

SANTAKLAUSEN

Christmas is the most important festival of the year in Austria, but Saint Nicholas (Santaklausen), the patron saint of the children, appears on Dec. 6th. Santaklausen is accompanied by the devil and demands that the children tell of their bad deeds, as well as their good ones. After the children promise to be good, Santaklausen rewards them with candies, fruits, and nuts.



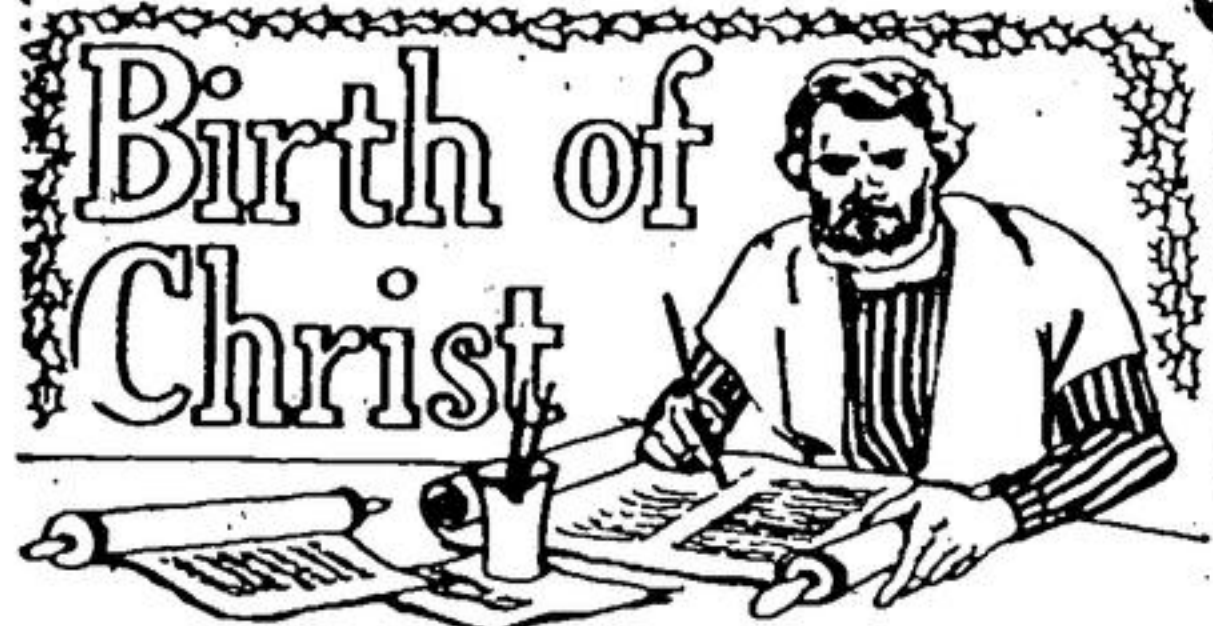
BEST Christmas Wishes

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NOT MANY TOYS get a second chance to brighten children's faces as Christmastime, but these and others being repaired by Georgetown Kinettes for delivery to families on the welfare list will get just that. The Kinettes began collecting the dulgrown toys several weeks ago. Here, Kinettes Donna Mogres, left, Donna Diegel, Norene Miehlm, and Jane Evans try out the toys' face-brightening qualities on little Sherri Diegel, Jacque Diegel, and Michelle Miehlm.



Birth of Christ

Christmas in medieval England was called Christes Mass. The first Christmas was then Christ's Mass, until it acquired its present spelling. The day is still known in many countries of Europe as 'Christ's Birthday, and is called Noel by the French, Natale by the Italians, Weihnacht by the Germans, and Yulen Jul by the Scandinavians.

Most scholars agree that Dec. 25th is certainly not the birthday anniversary of the Saviour, and that he was not born in what we now measure as A.D. The custom of celebrating the Christ's Birthday on December 25th originated in Rome in the fourth century of the Christian Era, some say in 354 A.D. The Roman monk Dionysius Exiguus—who made the calculations for the calendar in the sixth century, probably misplaced A.D. by at least six years.

Herod the Great, according to the current Gregorian calendar, died in 4 B.C. He is said to have put to death the boy babies in Bethlehem who were two years old and younger. The first Christmas may have been as early as 6 B.C.

In finally choosing Dec. 25th for Christmas, the early church fathers probably were not unmindful that the Roman feast week of the Saturnalia ended on Dec. 24 after which some purification of the soul would be in order. Worshipers of the Persian god Mithras celebrated Dec. 25th as the advent of the Sun.

The place of Christ's birth is much better established than the time. If you went to Bethlehem this Christmas and asked to see where Jesus Christ was born, the inhabitants would direct you to a small grotto, or cave, beneath the Church of the Nativity.

History fixes the year of the Saviour's birth at 6 B.C. All the historical quibbling is of little significance to the real meaning of Christmas, which can be read in the face of almost any child at some moment on Christmas Day.

Season's Greetings

C/O Rev. A.C. Dayfoot, Baptist, Methodist, Moravian, Presbyterian and other churches are enrolled, some of them as residential students, others in Friday night and Saturday classes. Every Saturday morning about thirty take breakfast at the big old mission house where we live!

Dear Friends: Another year has slipped by and I am engaging the services of The Herald to carry you all the best wishes of the Dayfoots for a bright and happy Christmas season.

I have been a reader of The Herald for over fifty years, and am consequently impressed by the changes in Georgetown in that time. If memory serves me aright, it attained the status of a town when the population reached two thousand. What date that was I do not know. Some of you know that my late husband (Charles Brown Dayfoot) was a native of Georgetown and attended Chapel Street school as a child.

I will close now by expressing the prayerful wish that we all may celebrate December 25th and the New Year in a way pleasing to the One who was born on Christmas Day.

As ever,
Sincerely,
(Mrs. C.B.) Catherine Dayfoot

THE MESSIAH

The Messiah oratorio, a Christmas tradition, was composed by George Frederick Handel in only twenty five days, according to world book encyclopedia. It was first performed in 1742 in Dublin. A year later King George II set the custom of standing during the oratorio's 'Hallelujah Chorus.'

Our son, Rev. Arthur Dayfoot (a missionary of the United Church of Canada) as Principal of St. Andrew's Theological College in San Fernando is busy with the work of Christian training, both of pre-theological students and lay leaders. The work is ecumenical in that young people from Anglican,



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Greetings



A wreath of best wishes to all our wonderful friends and patrons - may your Christmas be merry!

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ALWAYS A CHRISTMAS

The bright eyes of children around a Christmas tree will always be with us. You can say it's sentimental, but the old world needs more of that sentiment. You can say it's unnecessary, but so are a mother's kiss, a friendly handshake and the song of a robin. Christmas is the one day of the year when kindness and faith and joy have a right of way; a day when the hearts are brighter, when smiles are kinder. Sure, there'll always be a Christmas.

CHRISTMAS STORY

When Christmas brings the story so often told before, Of Wise Men and the star that shone above the stable door— May happiness, good will and love, within your hearts abound, And Christmas hold the hope and joy the happy Wise Men found.



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