

JOLLY OLD SAINT NICHOLAS was everywhere this past few weeks, even Mohawk Raceway, where he flew in via helecopter direct from the North Pole to distribute bags of treats to over 800 children. Mohawk closed its winter meet Saturday afternoon and Santa's arrival, complete with three Santa's helpers in miniskirts riding on the raceway's fire truck, was just one of the closing day highlights. Driver Jack Kenney of Ancaster was "Santa" for the day. His pretty helpers were Susan Anderson, Barbara Beechy and Donna Syrnyk. At the right is the fire truck driver, Henry Neave. (Staff Photo)



Christmas service on Sunday morning. A service. group of the children are shown with some

Three "wise" men

probably Persians

In New Testament history ac-

cording to Matthew, the narrative

of the three Magi who followed

a star to Bethlehem in search of

the Infant Jesus describes them

simply as three wise men from

the east." It was not until the

2nd century that they were known

as "kings" in a charming legend

that traces its origin to that time.

ed the priestly caste of the an-

cient Persian Zoroastrian relig-

ion. As this religion moved

westward, it came into contact

with Babylonian beliefs and prac-

tices, and thus derived a strong

interest in astrology, demonolo-

Graeco-Roman world, Zoroastr-

ianism was almost identical with

astrology and magic in the pop-

ular view. This explains the use

of the term "wise men" in Mat-

thew's New Testament account,

for the three men described

therein were actually astrolog-

The Empress Helena is cred-

ited with having brought the

bones of the Wise Men to Con-

stantinople; from there they were

removed to Milan and afterward

to Cologne. This explains why

the Wise Men were often referr-

ed to as the Three Kings of Col-

ogne. Their crowns are exhib-

ited in the Chapel of the Three

Kings in Cologne Cathedral,

which is supposed to contain their

By the time it had reached the

gy and magic.

ers and not kings.

relics.

The Magi originally represent-

DOZENS OF "WHITE GIFTS" for needy child- of the gifts they brought and placed on the We Feature Red Brand Beef ren were contributed by the children of Bethel altar. A Christmas play enacted by the "Young We Serve the East End, Too United Church at Drumquin during a pre- Folk" group was another highlight of the

by harry harley m.p.

The most significant matter introduced in the House of Commons in the previous week has been a Government Bill to amend Canada's divorce laws.

It has been estimated by the Canadian Bar Association that some 500,000 Canadians are today living in common law marriages because our present laws make legal divorce and remarriage an impossibility. The grounds for divorce will be extended to include bigamy, physical and mental

The marriage breakdown concept must be proved in the Courts. It could be based on imprisonment for one of the marriage partners for a certain period of time or gross addiction to alcohol or narcotics with failure of treatment

for these disorders. Separation will be grounds for divorce where the petitioner has been unable to locate her marriage partner for three years, or where one of the marriage partners deserts the other for at least five years. It was pointed out that most divorce laws in Canada were over 100 years old and as such had little relevance to today's conditions.

All of the speeches to date House of Commons have been in favor of the Bill and it would appear at this time that it should pass quickly.

The new Budget will be debated over the next six days and will provide the Opposition with further opportunities of voting non-confidence in the government.

It is expected that the Minis-

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Harley to Halton

ter of National Revenue, the Honourable Mr. Benson, will be making a statement in the House of Commons concerning the various cutbacks that the government is making during the current year to limit government spending. It is anticipated that these cutbacks

will affect every department of government. It is difficult to say at this time whether any of these cutbacks will have any influence on the programs currently uncruelty and marriage break- derway in the County of Hal-

Tree trimming

The prettiest Christmas tree looks its best only, if it is properly trimmed. The number of lights used - whether too few or too many affects the appearance of even the most perfect tree. Here's a formula used by professional lighting experts: Height of tree (in feet) x width of tree at base (in feet) x 3. It's not as complicated as it sounds. For example, if your tree is 6 feet high and 4 1/2 feet wide at the base; $3 \times 4 \frac{1}{2} \times 3$ equals 81 lights for a good lighting effect.

CANADA'S OLDEST known public clock, atop the fire hall in HMC Dockyard in Halifax, has just been repainted a bright gold. Constructed in London, England in 1767, the clock was installed over a sail loft in 1772 and operated continuously until becoming a casualty of the Halifax explosion in 1917. It was repaired, however, and in 1941 moved to the specially designed tower above the new fire hall, where it has since remained.

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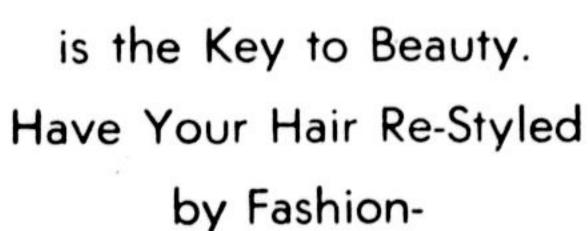
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