

Legion Notes

by Tony Mash

The Legion Executive extends to all members of the Legion, their families and friends the time-honored wish, A Merry Christmas!

CLUBROOM NOTES
The Clubroom will be closed from 6.30 p.m. Christmas Eve for the holiday and reopens Thursday at the regular time.

Heard that Bob Eggleton fixed the pool table meter. They said he could not do it! Anyway, it works now. (Does it still accept dimes, Bob?)

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Your Branch membership fees for 1969 are due on January 1. Please be sure to pay your dues

LEGIONNAIRES

Your Branch membership fees for 1969 are due on January 1. Please be sure to pay your dues promptly so that you may continue to receive your monthly copy of The Legionary without interruption and to help the Legion function effectively at all levels.

SICK CALL

We are very sorry to hear that the following members have been hospitalized, Lorne Ellwood, Milton Hospital; Murray Grenke, Milton Hospital; Lindsay Love, Toronto Western Hospital; Emmanuel Vassallo, Milton Hospital. The thoughts of the members are with you fellows, and we wish you well.

COMING EVENTS

The New Year's Eve Ball will be held at the banquet hall of the Legion. Still a few tickets

left, obtainable at the Clubroom. Music will be provided by Gary Anderson's Band, admission is \$10 per couple. Novelties, prizes and refreshments will be available.

Executive meeting to be held on January 6. There will be a General membership meeting on January 13 (Let's see a good turnout of members.)

The Milton Minor Soccer Group at the Legion are organizing a Robbie Burns Dance to be held at the Legion on January 25. Details later.

Anyone interested in a trip to the old country next year? Zone B 7 Oakville has two charter flights to Britain organized for 1969.

Saturday 31 May, 1969, Toronto to Prestwick, returning Saturday 21 June. Fare to Bonnie Scotland \$195.00 return.

Friday, 8th August, 1969, Toronto to London, returning Saturday, 30th August. Fare to London \$230.00 return. Further particulars may be obtained from Davy Nay, phone 845-6271 or John Jenkins, 844-9178.

COMMERCIAL DART LEAGUE

Standings as of December 19th: Superiors 146, Disciples 140, Trafalgar Motors 118, Bantams 96.

Jack Duimstra high score of 140 and high finish of 114 still stands.

EUCHRE LEAGUE

Standings as of December 19th: Browns 101, P.L.R. 98, Zimmermann 89, Scotams 87, Lowville 85, Stompers 78, Happy Gang 71, Dufferin 59.

Pie in pear tree tongue twister

"On the first day of Christmas, my true love sent to me a partridge in a pear tree."

So begins "The Twelve Days of Christmas," a traditional and favorite song of the holiday season. The ballad tells the story of the gifts a lover sends to his lady on each of the 12 days from Christmas to Epiphany.

The first gift, a partridge in a pear tree, may have been inspired by an old drinking song, "A Pie sat on a Pear Tree," says the editors of The New Book of Knowledge.

As a ballad, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is an example of the "number chain formula" in folk songs. As a carol, it is of the type that marked the change from formal hymns in Latin to musical poems in the vernacular of the people.

The song can be sung in a variety of ways. It can become a game song in which each person, following a leader in repetitions, must pay a forfeit if he misses a line. Sometimes the descriptions of the gifts turn into mouth-defying tongue twisters!

Remember to replenish your Christmas tree water regularly



Santa Claus is making sure this driver gets a good supply of courtesy, caution and common sense... three things he's going to need to get through traffic safely, not only during the busy holiday season, but all year round. The Ontario Department of Transport cautions all drivers to be particularly careful during the coming holiday season. Winter is always a hazardous time for drivers... early darkness and bad weather cut down visibility... and snow and ice make roads treacherous. But the holiday season brings additional hazards. City streets are crowded with shoppers and dazzling Christmas decorations add to the confusion. Highways are crowded too as families head out for holiday reunions. To reach your Christmas destination safely, leave home a little earlier, leave more stopping space between cars, and reduce your speed to suit road, weather and traffic conditions.

At Christmas Time: Buy A Fresh Yule Tree; Tree Care Safety Tips

The Christmas holiday season is almost here, and preparations for Christmas and New Year's are already under way.

Millions of Canadian homes will decorate Christmas trees as part of the holiday observance.

A few tips on how to choose and care for your tree will help keep your home fire safe during the holiday season, says the Canadian Underwriters' Association. The Association presents these Christmas safety suggestions.

Buying Your Christmas Tree

- When you shop for your Christmas tree this year, make sure you get a fresh tree. Brush the needles of the tree with your hand - if some needles drop off, you should choose another tree. If all of the trees on the lot seem dry, go to another tree seller whose trees are fresh.

- After you have purchased your tree, it is a good plan to keep it out-of-doors until you decorate it. Keep the tree standing in a small pail of water because a freshly cut tree will continue to "drink" water, and that keeps the tree fresh and green.

Decorating Your Tree

- To keep the tree fresh as long as possible, wait until just before Christmas to bring it into the house.

- The tree should be put up in the coolest part of the room. It should be placed away from radiators, hot air ducts, heaters, and fireplaces.

- It is a good plan to use a stand with a metal container that you may fill with water, because this will keep the tree fresh longer. Some member of the family should check the metal container daily and refill it regularly.

- When you decorate your tree, use flameproof decorations. The safest decorations are those made of glass, metal or some other fire-resistant material.

- Safe lights on a tree are highly important. Before putting up tree lights, check the wires and sockets. Those with frayed wires or faulty connections or plugs should be discarded. When buying new lights, be sure they bear the UL label of Underwriters' Laboratories.

- If you use an electric train as part of your Christmas display, set up the tracks away from the tree. A spark from a toy train, coming in contact with dry Christmas tree needles, could start a fire.

- Remember to turn off Christmas tree lights at bedtime, and when there is no one in the room. In particular, do not leave lights on when nobody is home.

- Throughout the holiday season, check the Christmas tree frequently to be sure it is not becoming too dry. Also check tree needles near lights. If needles near a light seem brittle, change the position of the light.

- Metal trees should never be decorated with Christmas lights - there's always the chance of a short-circuit. Off-the-tree lighting should be used, instead.

- Christmas trees in the yard should be decorated with heavy-duty cords, especially designed for outdoor use.

Taking Down Your Tree

- On Christmas Eve or Christmas morning, when gifts are opened, all wrappings should be picked up immediately.

Churches Echo With Yule Tale

"And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2:7.

At Christmas, in church and home devotions, Christians turn again and again to the Biblical story of that Holy Night nearly two thousand years ago.

From the words of two of his disciples, Luke and Matthew, they learn of humble shepherds watching in a field, of herald angels singing, of a Star that shone in the East to guide the Wise Men on their way.

In every word of the sacred story, the first Christmas lives anew. And most cherished of all are the words that tell of the simple manger scene, of Mary, and Joseph, and the Christ Child.

"And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger."

The words, as simple as the scene, inspire awe and wonder, for the glory of the moment, for the miracle that was wrought. Yet the same words bring a homely comfort, too. It is a miracle that even a child may comprehend, for there, living again in the words, is the Baby Jesus, wrapped in swaddling clothes "Because there was no room for them in the inn."

In the glory, there is poignancy, too.

"No room in the inn."

The words echo across the ages, and rejoicing is tinged with bitterness. That - as in the words of the famous carol, "Away in a Manger," - "the little Lord Jesus" had "no crib for His bed" weighs on the heart of Christianity.

Even here at the manger there is the shadow of suffering in store for the Son of God, of trials soon to begin with the flight into Egypt, and to end on the Cross.

But the glory prevails, in the miracle of the humble manger, and ahead, through the shadows of the future, through anguish and agony, shines the radiance of Easter.

It is Christmas, and Christians everywhere rejoice at the words of the angel.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11.

YULE SERENADE

Serenading their neighbors with carols is a community enterprise in St. Louis, Mo. More than 50,000 carolers participate, under the guidance of the St. Louis Christmas Carols association, established half a century ago. Voluntary contributions to the carolers are used to help handicapped and underprivileged children.

"Silent Night"

A broken organ inspired "Silent Night." So that the people of the parish might have a song at Christmas, Father Joseph Mohr, an Austrian priest, wrote the carol, and his organist composed the music. It was sung on Christmas Eve, 1818, to guitar accompaniment.

Annual Christmas concert held at school presentations made during S.S. program

By Mrs. William Watson

Kilbride school was the scene of the annual Christmas concert last Monday, December 16, put on by the kindergarten, year one, two students and the grade three students of room 107.

The opening number was done by the afternoon kindergarten, Santa's Workshop under the direction of teacher, Mrs. C. Sumner. The morning kindergarten class under the direction of Mrs. C. Sumner entertained with the Christmas Tree Story.

Year one students acted out, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, under the direction of teacher, Mrs. S. Banks. This year two students put on a play entitled, Santa Claus' Cap under the director of teacher, Mrs. L. Parker. The Nativity Story was presented by the year one and two students under the direction of teacher, Mrs. P. Cosier.

A medley of Christmas songs was sung by the students of room 107 under the direction of teacher, Miss Linda Higgins.

The audience sang two Christmas carols, Deck the Halls and The First Noel and Frosty the Snowman with Mrs. Rose at the piano.

Principal, Norman Howell extended a welcome to all and thanked the teachers and students for the evening's entertainment.

Honre and School president, Dr. R. Muirhead reminded the parents of the meeting on Monday, January 20, when a panel discussion will be held on Children's Emotions.

At the conclusion of the evening, jolly Old St. Nick arrived on time in his bright red suit and snow white whiskers with a treat for all the children. The Sunday school children, teachers and congregation of Kilbride United Church enjoyed a pot luck supper last Saturday evening, December 14 in the Sunday school room.

Following the meal, Sunday school secretary, Mrs. Al Kinnear made the presentation of awards for faithful attendance at Sunday school. The awards were as follows: those absent two Sundays or less, Debbie Sault; fourth year bar-perfect attendance, Diane Sault; fourth year bar, Patty Coulson; sixth year bar, Jim Gorter; tenth year bar, diploma of Merit-absent five Sundays or less, Donald Coulson; second year seal, David Sault, Diane Sault, Debbie Sault, Timmy Fisher, Patty Coulson; seventh year seal, David Fisher; eighth year seal, tenth year seal, Ken and Jim Gorter.

A short program concluded the evening. Those taking part were the intermediate girls, as they spelled out Christmas and what each letter meant to them. The kindergarten class presented a short play with a manger scene and a Christmas carol. A piano solo, Silent Night was given by Susan Bye. The primary class then recited the poem, Long Long Ago, Patty Coulson and Debbie Sault sang a duet entitled, "O Little Town of Bethlehem."

Santa Claus arrived and distributed gifts from under the tree as well as candy canes. Each child received an apple as they left.

Children and teachers at Kilbride school enjoyed hot dogs for lunch last Wednesday. Nineteen dozen were prepared and served by daytime conveners, Mrs. Harold Jackson and Mrs. Walter Wilson assisted by Mrs. Wilbert Ford, Mrs. Russ Robertson, Mrs. Milton Schuett

and Mrs. William Watson. The good Neighbor club held their Christmas party last Monday in the centre with seven tables of progressive euchre being played.

Prize winners were Mrs. Elma Bullard, Mrs. Melford Cooling, Mrs. Maggie Smith, Darvin Peer, Fred Tuck and Mrs. William Allison (who played as a man). The door prize was won by Mrs. H. R. McDonald.

Mrs. McDonald played a medley of Christmas songs and Christmas gifts were exchanged.

At the conclusion of the evening, Jim Wetherett and his daughter, Mrs. Allison danced one dance

Seven executive members of the Kilbride and District Community Recreation Association met at the home of Al Kinnear, Cedar Springs road, last Wednesday evening.

Plans were finalized for the next dance to be held Saturday, January 11, in the centre. A motion was made that Mrs. William Watson be in charge of sending out sick, sympathy and thank you cards from the association. If anyone knows of anyone who is ill or in hospital, please let Mrs. Watson know or one of the executive members. We would appreciate it very much.

Bill Brouse is home following an appendectomy at the Milton District Hospital.

As the old year is coming to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the secretaries

and publicity conveners of the various organizations, staff of the Kilbride school and especially the editors and staff of The Canadian Champion and to all those who have helped me in any way to bring the Kilbride News to you.

Along with my husband Bill, sons Bill Jr. and Kenneth, we wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year.

WHAT "NOEL" MEANS
"Noel," the French word for Christmas, means "Birthdays" "news" or "a shout of joy".

DEATHS

MERRETT, Harold Victor - Passed away at Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital on Friday, December 20, 1968, Harold Victor Merrett (late of Oakville and Milton), dearly beloved husband of Lily Florence Escott and dear brother of Arthur of Alliston, Daisy (Mrs. Jack Long) of Georgetown, Frances (Mrs. Dugald Hepburn) of Switzerland; predeceased by Walter, Bert, Bessie (Mrs. Briggs), Percy, Roland, Robert and Ernest. Past Worshipful Master St. Clair Masonic Lodge, Milton; Past First Principal Royal Arch Chapter.

Resting at the Thomas Funeral Chapel, Alliston, for funeral service Dec. 23 at 2 p.m. Interment Alliston Union cemetery. Masonic service was held in the chapel Sunday evening.

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GREETINGS
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