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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19th, 1940.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

Christmas comes this year to the people of the world under strange and bewildering conditions. The Angel's song, "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men" has a strange background of bursting shells. Thousands of men and women throughout the world hear not the beautiful notes of Christmas music, but only the tramp of marching feet, the clanging of mechanized war machines, the drone of bombers, the shriek of warning sirens. Outside instead of the gay lights of Christmas there is the blackout. In Canada we are fortunate that we still can celebrate Christmas, so let us thank God that our lot has been cast in this favored land. Let us try to capture the true spirit of Christmas, and dedicate anew our effort and our resources that soon again the Angel's Song may be sung in every land and every clime.

The hope of Christmas is always for a better world, a kindlier world, a happier world, and today as never before Christian people pin their faith on this hope of Merry Christmas. With an abiding faith that this hope will triumph over all the forces of sin and hate, and looking forward hopefully to the dawning of a new day we extend to all readers of The Liberal, our Sincere Christmas Greetings.

A MERRY OLD CUSTOM

One of the oldest, as well as one of the merriest, of the old customs in England, was the bringing in of the Yule-log. It was hauled in with much ceremony, lit with a brand of the previous year's log, and as it burned was supposed to stamp out old grudges and animosities. The "wassail bowl" (Waes-hael—be of health) was a kind of peace pipe, which was passed around for each guest to taste, and which signified the restoration of peace and harmony. No doubt its contents were capable of putting them all in a good humor! Following the burning of the log came Yule-songs, dances, kissing under the mistletoe, and the telling of legendary tales. The Yule-log remains as a symbol of the days when England was in truth "merrie."

KEEP CHRISTMAS HAPPY

Some people will be happier this Christmas for things not bought — gauze, splints, adhesive, anaesthetics — say the Industrial Accident Prevention Associations.

Need for these things can come in so many ways that it's hard to make sure they really are checked off your "Christmas list."

"Keep Christmas Happy" is a slogan suggested by the organization in a special appeal to prevent accidents at Christmas time.

From candles on Christmas trees to lack of enough care in driving or walking, accidents this Christmas may spoil the holiday season for families of the injured. Besides, little accidents mount up to proportions which can seriously affect Canada's war effort.

Bad weather, more hours of darkness, and the Christmas rush all make for dangerous traffic. To thwart these, the I.A.P.A. suggest:

1. Don't drive if you drink.
2. Balance bad weather and darkness with less speed and more care. Start earlier and go more slowly.
3. Don't let the hustle and bustle make you impatient if you get caught in a jam. Don't try to make up the few minutes you lose. Take it easy.

"...TO MEN OF GOOD WILL"

Another Christmas is coming! What a world of nappiness those few words have brought to each of us. Back on the wings of memory to earliest childhood, Christmas meant excitement, snow, trees and shiny things. Then, perhaps the very next year, it meant Santa Claus and toys and good food and breathless hours of play. It meant lots of fun, a hustling and bustling and a wild assortment of mysterious, beribboned packages promising much. Then as the years went by, the vision of Santa Claus grew dim and faded away, and in his place there came, like a kindly ghost, the spirit of Christmas, which brought joy and happiness to every home and which set apart a season for mirth and homecoming, jolly fellowship and good cheer.

From the very dawn of Christianity this same spirit has engendered a time of pious rejoicing, of peace and of all that it meant on this earth to men of good will.

Christmas probably means more to most of us in the civilized world than any other single day of the year. But what may we expect of Christmas at a time like this? A callous and ruthless enemy is at our very gate. Our freedom is threatened and there is no peace in our heart. Moreover, before we win, we must battle long and hard, and we must sacrifice much.

Paradoxical as it may seem, Christmas this year has much in store for Canada and the Empire, each and every part of it representing what we cherish most, and giving cause for true thanksgiving.

In the first place, Christmas will comfort us with the knowledge that our cause is just. Great Britain, under the late Neville Chamberlain, went all out for peace in our time. Although it was a failure, it was a glorious bid for peace on earth for men of good will.

Christmas will find a Canada united with a firmness and singleness of purpose unequalled since Confederation. Christmas will see our industries humming a war tune so that eventually we may have peace.

Christmas will show business working hand in hand with government, co-ordinating all efforts in the advancement of the common cause.

Christmas will reflect in Canada a consciousness of her growing importance as a coming world power, working ever more closely and effectively with Great Britain and the United States in the fight for democracy.

Christmas will reaffirm the wealth of natural resources which is our heritage and without which we cannot build for greatness.

Christmas will reassure us of ultimate victory, of right prevailing over wrong, of the lasting peace that will come to a war-sick world.

Christmas will bring to Canada, as a peace offering, a future that is bright beyond our fondest hopes, where people will come for happiness and security and from whence her rich argosies will once again ply to all corners of the world.—Canadian Business..



**A Christmas Message from
Thornhill United Church**

"I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year."—Charles Dickens.

The Parsonage, Thornhill, Ont.,
Wednesday, December 18, 1940.

Dear Members and Adherents of Thornhill United Church and all other readers:

We, the 'Parsonage Dwellers', express regret that we do not as yet know each one of you personally, although we already feel as though we do, in a friendly kind of way. Perhaps it is partly because of this season that we ask you to accept this earnest and sincere CHRISTMAS WISH:

WE HOPE AND PRAY

THAT the melody of the Christmas Hymns may sing in your heart every day of the year.

THAT the Happy Bells of the Season may continue to ring in joy-giving echoes when other days have come.

THAT the Peace proclaimed by the Angels may fill your life with a calm, a confidence and peace beyond the reach of daily discords.

THAT goodwill toward men may glow in your heart as the days lengthen, kindling into a love like that which burned in the soul of Him whose coming brought all Christmas good to earth, and whose Holy Presence alone keeps life glad and sweet and strong.

And we would like to say something to the children too. After all, Christmas emphasizes the sweetness and goodness of childhood, and one cannot help but think of the significance of that verse which declares that "a little Child shall lead them."

"For little children everywhere

A joyous season still we make;

We bring our precious gifts to them,

Even for the dear child Jesus' sake."

So, we hope that all boys and girls will have just a most wonderful time, but don't forget, kiddies, to whisper to dear old Santa that you want him to bring something for mamma and papa, too! And here's a secret! Shh!—If you tell daddy what you want mamma to have I'm sure he will do all he can to help Santa Claus bring it to her, and if you tell mamma what you would like daddy to find on the Christmas tree on Christmas morning, I'm sure she'll put in a word to Santa for him too.

And boys and girls,

If Santa Claus should stumble,

As he climbs the chimney tall

With all the ice upon it,

I'm 'fraid he'd get a fall

And smash hisself to pieces—

To say nothing of the toys;

Dear me, what sorrow that would bring

To all the girls and boys;

So I'm going to write a note

And pin it to the gate—

I'll write it large, so he can see,

No matter if it's late—

And say, 'Dear Santa Claus, don't try

To climb the roof tonight;

But walk right in, the door's unlocked,

The nursery's on the right!"

Really, though, kiddies, we do hope you have a happy time, and may the love and gladness and unselfishness and goodwill that Jesus puts in the hearts of men and women and boys and girls stay there all the year, so that you may be happy all the year around.

We would like to thank you one and all for the kindnesses and consideration you have shown us since coming to Thornhill; it has been appreciated, we can assure you.

Nor would we forget to say "Happy Christmas" to the generous and kindly editor and manager of The Liberal, Mr. Smith, who has so freely given space week by week for the publication of Church news, notices and friendly comment.

Once more, may you all experience a truly joyous Christmas and a Happy and Successful New Year.

Sincerely and with every good wish,

Rev. Eldridge Currey.

"GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON
EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN."

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Merry Christmas

TO ALL AT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON GO OUR SINCERE WISHES FOR JOY AND HAPPINESS AT CHRISTMAS AND A FULL MEASURE OF PROSPERITY IN THE COMING YEAR.

A. A. EDEN

GROCER

Phone 8

Richmond Hill



Season's Greetings

WE EXTEND OUR COMPLIMENTS OF THE FESTIVE SEASON WITH THE WISH THAT IT HOLD A WEALTH OF GOOD CHEER FOR ALL.

W. LAUDER GLASS

Fresh and Cooked Meats — Fowl for Christmas
Phone 3 Richmond Hill

Merry Christmas

Our appreciation of a pleasant relationship finds expression at this season in our wish that you may share in all the joys of Christmastide. To all people of the district, our wish for a Merry Christmas.

ROSEBUD CAFE

J. YORK, Prop.

Yonge St.

Richmond Hill



Greetings

TO ALL YOU, OUR FRIENDS AND PATRONS —WE WISH YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

A. J. Mansbridge & Son

PHONE 97

RICHMOND HILL

A Merry Christmas To All

WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXTEND HOLIDAY GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES TO OUR MANY FRIENDS. MAY JOY AND HAPPINESS BE YOURS THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR.

J. R. HERRINGTON

RICHMOND HILL, ONT.



A Merry Christmas

To our ever-widening circle of friends we are grateful and extend to all our Christmas Greetings and our wish for Good Health and Prosperity through the coming years.

M. P. MALTBY

CITIES SERVICE GARAGE

Yonge Street

Richmond Hill