

and .. CONTENTS NOTED

By Lillian O'Donnell

Tomorrow being Christmas, that glad day of days, when we wish our friends the season's best we thought it would be nice to express Christmas greetings in several languages so that readers of the Advance would have good wishes in their own language. To the English speaking — A Merry Christmas; To the Gaelic — Nodhlaig Fe Mhais Aghaidh; To the French-speaking — Joyeux Noel; To the Chinese — Kiojuk Sing-Tan; To the Finnish — Hauskaa Joulua; To the Polish — Rzechenia Weselych, Swiet Rzida Bozega Narodzenia; To the Italian — Buon Natale; To the Ukranian — Weselych Swiet Rzida Chrystowoho... To the Danish — Glaedelig Jul; To the Swedish — Glad Jul; To the Norwegian — Glaedelig Juel; To the Hollander — Vhoelike Kerstmis; To the Russian — Pozdrawlenie s Rozdestwom Christowym; To the Syrian — Aid Mbarck; To the Indian — Mino Niba Anamieligiagad.

The Advance has some subscribers among people of all the above nationalities, and in addition there are some Swiss, Hungarian, Croatian, Greek and several other nationalities on the list of readers, Timmins and the Porcupine being very cosmopolitan places. But time, who waits for no man or woman either, does not permit the translation of the season's greetings into all the languages represented, nevertheless, they all know the English language well and so herewith are given the greeting in a language they all know and respect. . . . MERRY CHRISTMAS.

In our daily rounds not very long ago, we overheard one of our local small fry disclosing the facts of life to an even younger representative of the rising generation. "You should know by now", he said, "there is no such thing as Santa Claus. It's just like the stork. He's your old man."

Nevertheless, in spite of such modern sophisticated ideas, there really was a Santa Claus. Yes, good old Saint Nick actually lived. Some sixteen centuries ago in Asia Minor. There he was Bishop of Myra. His life history is rather obscure but several centuries after his death he became a great figure in Christian legend. It is believed that his secret gift of dowries to several poverty stricken maidens so that they could attract suitable husbands led to the practice of giving gifts to friends on the eve of Saint Nicholas.

In celebration of the feast of Saint Nicholas-- it falls on December 6th, it was customary in the long ago for communities to elect a Boy Bishop to hold office for a limited number of days extending until after Christmas in very much the same manner as boy members of parliament, boy mayors and police chiefs are appointed today. During the centuries, human nature being what it is, hasn't changed much, so it is not surprising that the Boy Bishop and his companions arranged for a good deal of feasting and merriment during their incumbency.

Because the two celebrations occurred close together, the feast of Saint Nicholas and Christmas were combined.

However, Saint Nicholas was and continued to be the patron Saint of the wee folk and the early Dutch settlers in the New World introduced the jolly, bewiskered, old fellow to New Amsterdam--There the English colonists--ever ready to recognize a good thing adopted him from their Dutch neighbors. The Dutch form of his name is San Nicolaa--If you say it over quickly several times you will understand how easily it became corrupted in English to Santa Claus.

Then there is the popular custom of kissing under the mistletoe--just when or where this custom began, no one seems to know. But it is scarcely likely that anyone will discontinue that pleasant pastime because he doesn't know why he's doing it.

Historically, there is a great deal of magic and religious significance associated with mistletoe. According to an old legend the ancient Druids hung it above their doorways to assure that long life good fortune and happiness would pass beneath it. (Ah me, if only the old prophets could have foreseen what goes on under it today.)

Traditionally, holly leaves represent Christ's crown of thorns, the red berries, droplets of His blood. The use of holly at Christmas time, however, is an adaption from an old Roman custom.

The origin of yet another Yuletide custom is buried in antiquity. Many years ago, canny Dutch parents cajoled their reluctant offspring into going to bed early on Christmas Eve by telling them that Saint Nicholas would not visit their house unless he saw all the little wooden shoes in a row by the hearth and so knew they were all fast asleep. From Holland the practice spread to France and in time to England. However the ingenious English tots, disdainful of the limited capacity of shoes, soon discarded them in favor of their much more spacious stockings. And so, till this day, stockings continue to be "hung by the chimney with care" by trusting kiddies on Christmas Eve.

Almost every country has been blamed for the Christmas tree. However, the Christmas tree, suitably garbed in raiment of tinsel and stars did not become a regular institution until after the marriage of Queen Victoria and the German Prince Albert.

Boxing day is a survival of still another old custom. Celebrated on December 26th, it has nothing whatever to do with fistcuffs. The name stems from the practice of opening on that day alms boxes placed in churches for donations to be distributed to the poor and needy.

Although the printed Christmas cards have been in existence only slightly more than fifty years, the origin of even this modern tradition is seeped in history. For many centuries it has been a Canadian habit to wish one another a "Merry Christmas". However, the first commercial Christmas card--lithographed and hand-colored--was sold by Joseph Cunliff in 1896.

But the romance of Yuletide traditions and customs is scarcely appreciated by most of us today. All too often the modern Christmas is dominated by the hurly-burly of the last-minute shopping we annually resolve to avoid and the shame, full display of gluttony with its aftermath of regrets.

★ WOMAN'S PAGE ★

Presentation of Medals For Figure Skaters Held On Sunday

When members of the Porcupine Figure Skating Club gathered Sunday for their annual party the presentation of medals and bars for tests passed during the Summer Skating School of 1947 and the Winter session of 1946-47 was held.

Following is presented a list containing the names of members who were successful--preliminary tests, Miss Pat Barlow, Mr. F. Belec, Miss Evelyn Hall, Miss Doreen Hicks, Miss Joyce Kozinski, Miss Gloria Landreville, Miss Madeline Landreville and Mr. Peter Sherbin.

First test honors went to Miss Erica Batchelor, Miss Clara Cicci, Miss Nicki Marini, Miss Caroline Perkovich, Miss Pauline Perkovich, Neil Pooley, Miss Alice Scullion and Miss Janice Sherwood. Second tests by Miss Erica Batchelor, Miss Joyce Elliot and Bernard Youlten.

Third test, Miss Erica Batchelor and Miss Helen Channen.

Fourth test, Miss Erica Batchelor.

Seventh test, Miss Audrey Sherbin and Mildred Verbik.

Dance tests, Bronze Medal, Mr. Eric Batchelor, Mrs. Vera Batchelor, Miss Erica Batchelor, Mrs. Theresa Belec, Mr. Les Farrow, Mr. W. O. Lafontaine, Miss Gladys Langman, Mr. Jim McGee, Miss Caroline Perkovich, Miss Pauline Perkovich, Miss Janice Sherwood and Mrs. Elizabeth Shields.

Silver Dance Medal, Mr. Eric Batchelor, Mrs. Vera Batchelor, Miss Erica Batchelor, Miss Helen Channen, Mr. Jim Fraser and Mr. Bernard Youlten. Club dance championship cups, donated by Miss Phylis Denne were presented to Jacqueline Byers and Roger Todhunter for walking and to Erica Batchelor and Tom Harkness for the 14-step event.

Mrs. J. Cousintine Hostess At Dinner Party For Ladies Anglican Guild

Against a decorative scheme of spruce boughs, pine cones and lighted candles, Mrs. J. Cousintine entertained members of the Ladies Guild of St. Matthew's Anglican Church at a dinner party during the weekend.

The delightfully arranged affair was held in the new hall of the church which was gay with pine boughs, cones and lighted tapers.

Prior to the holding of the dinner Mrs. Cousintine arranged a candle-light friendship service and read a Christmas story to the circle.

Mrs. A. Chidwick played the music for the carol singing and Mr. J. Cousintine dressed in the colorful garb of Santa Claus distributed gifts. Several very interesting films were shown by Mr. J. A. Aytte, one a travelogue of Canada and the second on the rehabilitation of the men who served in the various services.

Mrs. Cousintine was assisted by Mrs. Guolla.

Those present were Mrs. Guolla, Mrs. J. Thomas, Mrs. T. Everley, Mrs. J. S. Maxwell, Mrs. M. Holland, Mrs. L. Buck, Mrs. B. Richards, Miss Ivy Thomas, Mrs. H. Gidley, Mrs. T. Glastier, Mrs. R. McTaggart, Mrs. J. H. Knell, Mrs. M. Boyd, Miss M. Paynter, Mrs. P. Reid, Mrs. C. Preston, Mrs. W. Kevan, Mrs. J. Webb, Mrs. J. Drew, Miss Bette Drew, Mrs. F. Read, Mrs. L. Nicholson and Mrs. E. Peterson.

Miss Annabelle Lang, Temagami, is spending the Christmas holidays with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Les Redford.

Fun, Gaiety, Highlights Party Held By Members Porcupine Skating Club

Highlighting the social season was the gala party held Sunday afternoon by members of the Porcupine Figure Skating Club.

Prior to the party a splendid skating exhibition was held with soloist Dorothy Belec, Kitty Hill and a pairs number by Pauline and Caroline Perkovich highlighting the program.

During dinner, on Jones and his orchestra supplied the music and later Henry Keheek entertained the gathering by leading the merry sing song and rendering several trumpet solos. Accompanying at the piano was Hugh Scanlon.

A dance that would have done credit to the famous Don Cossacks was admirably performed by Bill Skrepatz and Frank Juski. As an encore the later performed a solo.

Frank Boivin and Agathe Charttrand accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Jean Larcher also added to the evening's enjoyment with their renditions of carols in English, French and Latin.

During the evening Santa Claus distributed an array of small Christmas gifts which were the cause of much merriment.

The gala event was convened by Mrs. H. Cybulski.

The delicious dinner was catered to by Kay Curry and her capable staff who were assisted by several members of the Club.

Among those present were Mr. R. J. Ennis, Mr. and Mrs. Sid Cooke, Mr. and Mrs. H. Cybulski, Mr. and Mrs. Omer Lafontaine, Roger Todhunter, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Batchelor, Miss Erica Batchelor, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brady, Miss Sue Meadows, Miss Mildred Verbik, Mrs. Joe Verbik, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Thompson.

Miss Betty Jane Rose, Miss Nancy McNeil, Mr. and Mrs. Rod Langdon, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dwyer, Mr. and Mrs. Belec, Mr. and Mrs. Scavlen, Mrs. MacKenzie Keith, Miss Jacqueline Byers, Ronnie Byers, Mr. Mrs. Peter Sherbin, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dobson, Miss Patricia Dobson, Mr. and Mrs. John Kirkland, Mr. and Mrs. G. Furse, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Sloan, Mr. and Mrs. I. K. Pierce.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Moran, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Crosby, Mr. and Mrs. Orville Atkins, Dr. W. S. Paul and Mrs. Paul, Bill Paul, Gordon Paul, Mr. and Mrs. R. Keene, Victor Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bowman, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Kinkel, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Parfitt, Mr. and Mrs. R. O'Neil Jr., R. O'Neil Sr., Miss Joyce Elliott, Miss Evelyn Hall, Miss Gloria Landreville, Miss Mimi Landreville, Miss Lena Todd.

Mose Greer, Alan Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. J. Doherty, Miss Rosemary Doherty, Mr. and Mrs. F. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Boni, Mr. and Mrs. Les Farrow and many others.

Ice Queen Barbara Ann Scott To Broadcast From Europe Over CBC December 27th.

Ottawa's Barbara Ann Scott, North American and world figure skating champion now in Europe in a bid to add the Olympic title to her records, will tell Canadian radio listeners some of her championship secrets in a

nation-wide radio broadcast Saturday, December 27.

The diminutive, blue-eyed ice queen will be a special guest on the regular weekly Sports College broadcast heard over a network of Canadian Broadcast-Corporation and affiliated stations. Her talk was recorded before she left Ottawa for her Olympic bid.

The mental approach to practice and a temperament which avoids ups and downs are more important than outstanding athletic ability in developing a champion Barbara Ann will tell Sports College listeners. To bring her own standard of proficiency to a point where she is one of Canada's main hopes for an Olympic title, took years of almost continuous hard work, she says, and hours of practice are still required before she feels ready to enter competition.

During her overseas tour, financed by a special fund subscribed by Canadian admirers, the Ottawa skating star will defend the world title she won at Stockholm, Sweden, last February.

Mrs. J. Trevethan Hostess At Yuletide Party

The home of Mrs. J. Trevethan, 6 Laurier avenue, beautifully decorated in seasonal tradition was the setting for a gay Christmas party recently when she entertained members of the Beaver Club.

Entertainment for the evening consisted of games and lovely prizes were won by Miss Kay Millard, Mrs. F. Read, Mrs. D. Allen, Mrs. T. Charlton and Mrs. R. Wales, Mrs. F. Read also won the mystery prize.

Regret was expressed at the absence of Mrs. C. Pennie who is ill and members all wish her a speedy recovery.

At the conclusion of a very enjoyable evening the hostess served a delicious lunch.

Those present were Mrs. G. Moore, Mrs. D. Allen, Mrs. L. Baxter, Mrs. J. Ralph, Mrs. R. Wales, Mrs. T. Charlton, Mrs. W. P. Bennets, Miss Kay Millard, Mrs. J. Trevethan and Mrs. F. Read.

Miss June Asselstine, who is attending the University of Toronto, is spending the holiday season at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Asselstine, McIntyre Property.

Miss Monica Franklin, is holidaying with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Franklin, 219 Sky Block. Miss Franklin is a student at the Ontario Ladies College, Whitby, Ontario.

Miss Ellen Terry is holidaying with relatives and friends in Toronto and other Southern points.

Ladies Canadian Legion Hold Christmas Party

The Women's Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion held a gala Yuletide party on Monday evening in the Legion Hall on Cedar street.

A delicious pot-luck supper was enjoyed following which carols were merrily sung and gifts exchanged. Mrs. T. Gay acting as Santa Claus.

At the close of the evening ice cream was enjoyed by the ladies.

Those present were Mrs. P. Jeffrey, Mrs. H. Presley, Mrs. M. Mock, Mrs. Fred Hornby, Mrs. George Starling, Mrs. L. Nicholson, Mrs. J. D. Harris, Mrs. T. Gay, Mrs. W. Wilkinson, Mrs. E. Parker, Mrs. E. Gill, Mrs. E. Finchen, Mrs. P. Mason, Mrs. M. Dubien and others.

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CHRISTMAS SUNDAY -- 11 a.m. Holiness Meeting

Theme -- Gifts of the Wise Men

2:15 p.m. Young People's Company

7:00 p.m. Special Christmas Service

THEME -- "God's Gift to Mankind" -- Special Music and Song

TO THE ELECTORS

TIMMINS TOWN OF

Although not a successful candidate in the recent elections I take this opportunity to say --



THANKS TO THOSE

Who Gave Me Their Support

J. V. Bonhomme

SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION



KARL EYRE

To All Citizens who expressed their confidence by electing me Mayor of Timmins for 1948.

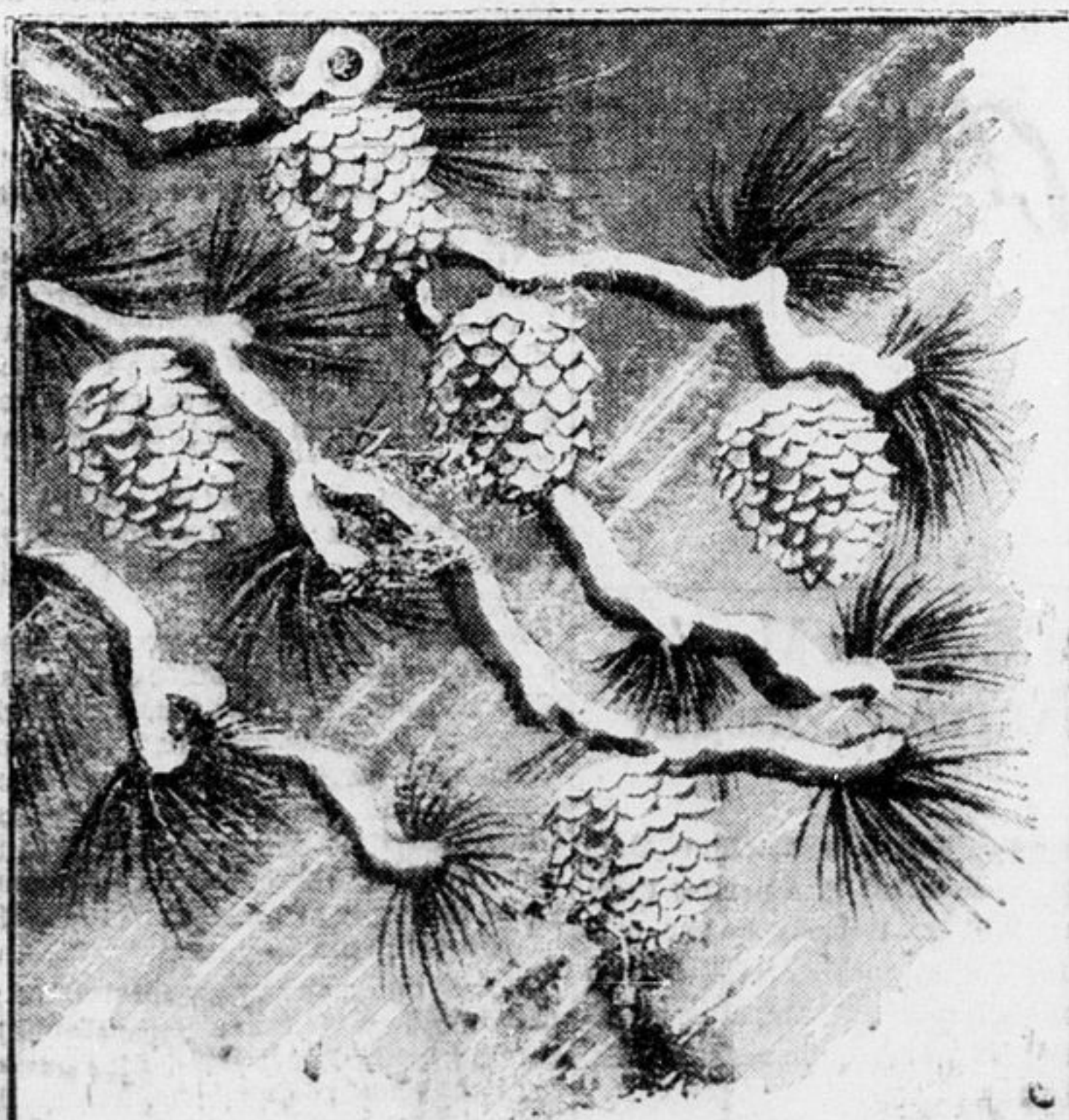
A MERRY CHRISTMAS

and the best of good wishes for the

NEW YEAR

KARL EYRE

MAYOR ELECT



SEASON'S Greetings
May good cheer and contentment be yours on this joyous holiday.
TIMMINS FIRE DEPT.

Grandmother Knows

What Brings Quick Relief

Since her own childhood grandmother has known Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine to be a dependable and quick relief for coughs, colds, bronchitis and similar ailments.

Is it any wonder that she sees that there is always a bottle of it at hand in case of emergency. Quick action is most important when colds set in.

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