

THE STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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NOTES and COMMENTS

Menu Mystery

We have often wondered why waitresses and hostesses in restaurants take the menu cards from the patrons as soon as orders have been given. Wondered if it were a case of a general shortage in menu cards.

We have just learned that the menu is taken from the customer as quickly as possible so as to minimize the chance of an order being changed and causing confusion in the kitchen. It is claimed that if the average woman is allowed to keep the menu card for any length of time she is almost certain to change her mind about the order. That is why the menu is taken away from her. — Smith Falls Record News.

Five-Cent Postage

Ottawa proposes to increase first-class postage rates one cent and to reduce the domestic air mail rate from seven to five cents by April 1.

Five-cent postage is just another form of increased taxation at a time when the public is hoping for tax relief. No doubt the short week is putting the post-office department in a bad way to balance its books. This might have been taken care of by dipping into the sizable surplus shaping up for the current fiscal year.

Moving to Right?

The Swedes may soon join most other motorists in driving on the right side of the road.

Swedish automobile associations and many newspapers have been demanding this reform for many years. Since motor population zoomed following the last war, the demand has swelled to a clamor. The Riksdag has been reluctant to approve the change. Its argument, backed by the government finance ministry, has been that the cost of remodeling buses and trolley cars, and moving traffic signals, would be too great.

A 19-member Riksdag committee recently returned from studying right-hand driving in Denmark and Germany. It plans to recommend the changeover be made starting next year. The committee report is expected to prod the Riksdag into approving the reform. That will leave Britain the only country in Europe which still has left-hand driving.

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Season's Greetings
AND ALL GOOD WISHES
FOR THE
New Year



from the
WALTERS FAMILY
at the Mayfair Restaurant

Merry Christmas

Make merry, be happy,
have fun for
this is Holiday time!
There's joy in the air,
warmth in our hearts—
and a very Merry
Christmas on our lips.



NORMA and LEN WILKES
Stouffville, Ontario

For Parents Only

'Protecting Your Child's Sight'

By Nancy Cleaver

"Mummy, haven't we forgotten something?" five year old Joyce asked eagerly. Christmas dinner was over. Vast quantities of delicious turkey, vegetables and pudding had been consumed. The crackers had been pulled, the gay paper hats tilted at various angles, adorned the heads of everyone from Granny to Baby Mac. For the life of her, Mother could not guess what had been overlooked! When she did not reply, Joyce explained, "We've not sung 'Happy Birthday to You' — It's the Baby Jesus' Birthday, isn't it? So we should sing the Birthday Song for Him, shouldn't we?"

This is a little scene from a Canadian farm home last Christmas Day. After the rush of preparing for this greatest of all festivals of the year they paused to remember its true significance.

In your home does your child know that the important thing about December 25th is that it is Christ's natal day? Children as well as adults find it easy to think in pictures. There should be a good color print of at least one famous painting of the First Christmas in every Christian home.

Large colored teaching pictures such as Raphael's Madonna, or Ploekhorst's "Tidings of Great Joy" showing the shepherds hearing the good news from the angels or Le Rolle's "Arrival of the Shepherds" picturing them at the entrance to the cave at Bethlehem with the Holy Family within, or the Wise Men in Botticelli's "The Adoration of the Magi" all make the Christmas story very real.

There are fine prints of sacred paintings in many Sunday School lesson helps. Religious Book Stores and Publishing Houses supply them. Quite a few small pictures can be found on Christmas cards. A school age child might like to make a scrap book of Christmas scenes, both sacred and secular.

has taken the place of the old-fashioned stereoscope. There are three exceptionally effective colored Christmas reels, on Joseph and Mary, the Shepherds and the Wise Men. This is a useful gift for the whole family.

The story of the first Christmas is told with great beauty and simplicity in the New Testament. Boys and girls should learn about Christmas as Christ's Birthday from his own parents.

It is confusing if children get the impression at home that Christmas has mainly to do with Santa Claus and the excitement of receiving gifts. How much children miss if they do not hear of the true origin of Christmas when they are quite small.

One of the loveliest glimpses of a Mother telling her boy and girl this story is found in "Only Parent" by Louise Dickson Rich. This recent book published by Longman's is remarkable for its insight into what goes on in the minds and hearts of children.

The author writes: "When Dinah was four and Rufus nine, at Christmas time I told them again of the story of the Christ child, of the long hard trip to Bethlehem, of the Inn that had no room and of the manger. Dinah's eyes filled with tears. 'But Mummy, He'd be cold and the cows and donkeys would look so big to Him, He'd be afraid!' I had forgotten that it was possible to feel concern, real concern for the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay."

This Christmas time in our homes, through pictures and telling the story of the First Christmas may we help our children see in their imaginations the baby Jesus in the manger at Bethlehem. "Love came down at Christmas" and may our own hearts be filled with love for Him and gratitude for His coming.

"Once again His Birthday Christians celebrate; Steadfastly believing Love will conquer hate."

REPORT FROM PARLIAMENT

By Michael Starr, M.P.
Ontario Riding

Trade Minister Howe said on December 14th that Canada has accepted a limitation for a short period on exports of oats to the United States. He made public in the House of Commons an exchange of correspondence between the United States and Canada agreeing to a limit on Canadian oats exports to the United States of 23 million bushels during the period from December 11, 1953 to October 1st, 1954. He stated that such a limitation was not desirable and has only been undertaken by Canada as the lesser of two evils. However, he assured the House that this limitation should not cause significant concern to producers of oats during the short period that it will be in effect. This year's oat crop is 61 million bushels less than last year's and if all 23 million bushels are shipped to the United States Canada will likely have a smaller carry-over of oats next year than this year. The crop this year is estimated at 405 million bushels and the carry-over last August 1st was 136,500,000 bushels. In the first nine months of this year Canada exported 41,015,589 bushels of oats to the United States, of total exports of 44,366,000 bushels to all countries.

With entries 70% higher than a year ago, Canada is virtually assured of more immigrants before the year's end than the number who landed last year. The Immigration Department announced recently that October's 18,624 arrivals boosted the immigration total for the first ten months of the year to 143,722. This is 2% lower than the 146,236 in the similar period last year. The October increase was the highest this year. In the first four months immigration lagged on an average of 40% below the comparable period last year. However, a steady increase began in May reaching a climax in October. If the rate of increase of the last six months continues, Canada should easily exceed the 164,498 arrivals of last year.

In spite of confident predictions by Government spokesmen in Ottawa that the Federal surpluses would decline sharply in the remaining months of the fiscal year, the surplus took a jump of nearly \$66 millions in October. At the end of October it stood at more than \$268 million. The

Dominion Government had collected \$266,000,000 more from the taxpayers in the first seven months of the fiscal year than it needed to pay its bills. However this surplus will be eliminated, as has been the practice in former years, by transferring it to other accounts. The fact remains that the surpluses have been and are being created by over-taxation.

Indications are that this will also be a record year as far as Canada's national income is concerned. The 1952 total was about \$18.3 billions. This year it could go past \$19.2 billions. Wages, salaries and supplementary labor income are running far higher than a year ago. During the month of August, the total chalked up under this broad heading was up 8% over the August, 1952 figure.

Health Minister Martin announced that the Government does not intend to try to recover any over payments made under the old-age pensions act. The government had advised the provinces of this policy.

The Government has allotted \$1,445,659 this year to the Provinces for civil defense. Breakdown by provinces is as follows: Ontario, \$492,008; Quebec, \$433,081; British Columbia, \$132,616; Alberta, \$85,545; Manitoba, \$83,367; Saskatchewan, \$66,583; Nova Scotia, \$65,696; New Brunswick, \$45,956; Newfoundland, \$32,978; Prince Edward Island, \$7,874.

The House of Commons passed a resolution preliminary to a bill, dealing with Canada's 1942 loan of \$700,000,000 to the United Kingdom. The bill ratifies an agreement signed last August under which \$150,000,000 still owing on the interest-free loan will be paid off during the next five years.

We have recessed for the Christmas and New Year holiday and will re-convene on January 11th. During the Recess there will be no report from me but it will continue after January 11th.

To the people of Ontario Riding, I wish to extend my very best wishes during the festive season and health and prosperity during the year 1954.

Bermuda is on the world spotlight.

The average person doesn't question the right of the other fellow to disagree with him—he merely questions his judgment.

Once "Best Seller," 5c Stamp's End Seen

Better take a good look now, for the three-cent stamp, once the "best seller" of Canadian postage, may soon disappear.

Even the post office was caught a little short, as surprised almost as anybody else, when Finance Minister Abbott recently announced the one-cent increase in postal rates for next April 1.

It required a fast reshuffle of stamp print orders, Deputy Postmaster-General Walter Turnbull today reported, and also another "look" at the new Elizabeth issue still in preparation.

This new issue has been planned coincidentally for a round next April — ever since the public uproar over the unflattering likeness of Queen Elizabeth as portrayed in the Coronation issue currently carrying the mails.

This Coronation issue — and even the post office admits it was "unsatisfactory" — was engraved from a plaster cast of Her Majesty's head.

The new Queen issue, timed as it now turns out quite accidentally, for release when the postal rates change, is being engraved from a photograph.

And while the post office will not say, since details of new issues are what the postage stamp division terms "top secret" until the postmaster-general announces them, there is reason to believe the choice of royal portrait falls between camera studies by famed British photographer Cecil Beaton and equally famed Ottawa photographer Yousuf Karsh.

Only the background of the portrait was nearing decision when Mr. Abbott announced the coming change in postal rates.

That brought up the question of colors and values, because the five-cent blue, currently almost a drug on the post office market, would become the best seller.

Color and value in relation to sales come close to being a tradition in the post office: one-cent "brown", two-cent "green", three-cent "red", four-cent "purple" and five-cent "blue."

To avoid confusion, since the public long has been "set" on color values, the post office decided to change nothing except the print orders.

New print orders for the current coronation issue have been placed to give the engravers "all the time they need" to do "a more satisfactory and acceptable" job this time on the new Queen's issue for

SUGGEST DEER SEASON IN ONT.

A suggestion has been made that an open season in December for deer may be permitted in a greater portion of Ontario County. The suggestion that a three or four day shoot be permitted in all but the southern three townships of the county was made at the final meeting of the Ontario County Council.

Reeve Rae Ferguson of the Town of Uxbridge, brought the matter up in council. He stated that several hunters and many farm residents of the county had made the suggestion and he was presenting it to the County Council for consideration. The suggestion was that all of Ontario County north of the Northern boundary of the southern three townships be made open to deer hunters in 1954. It had also been suggested, he said that this short season, possibly 3 or 4 days, be held in December, after all farm stock had been taken in for the winter. The farmer, he stated, claimed that deer were becoming quite plentiful in the county.

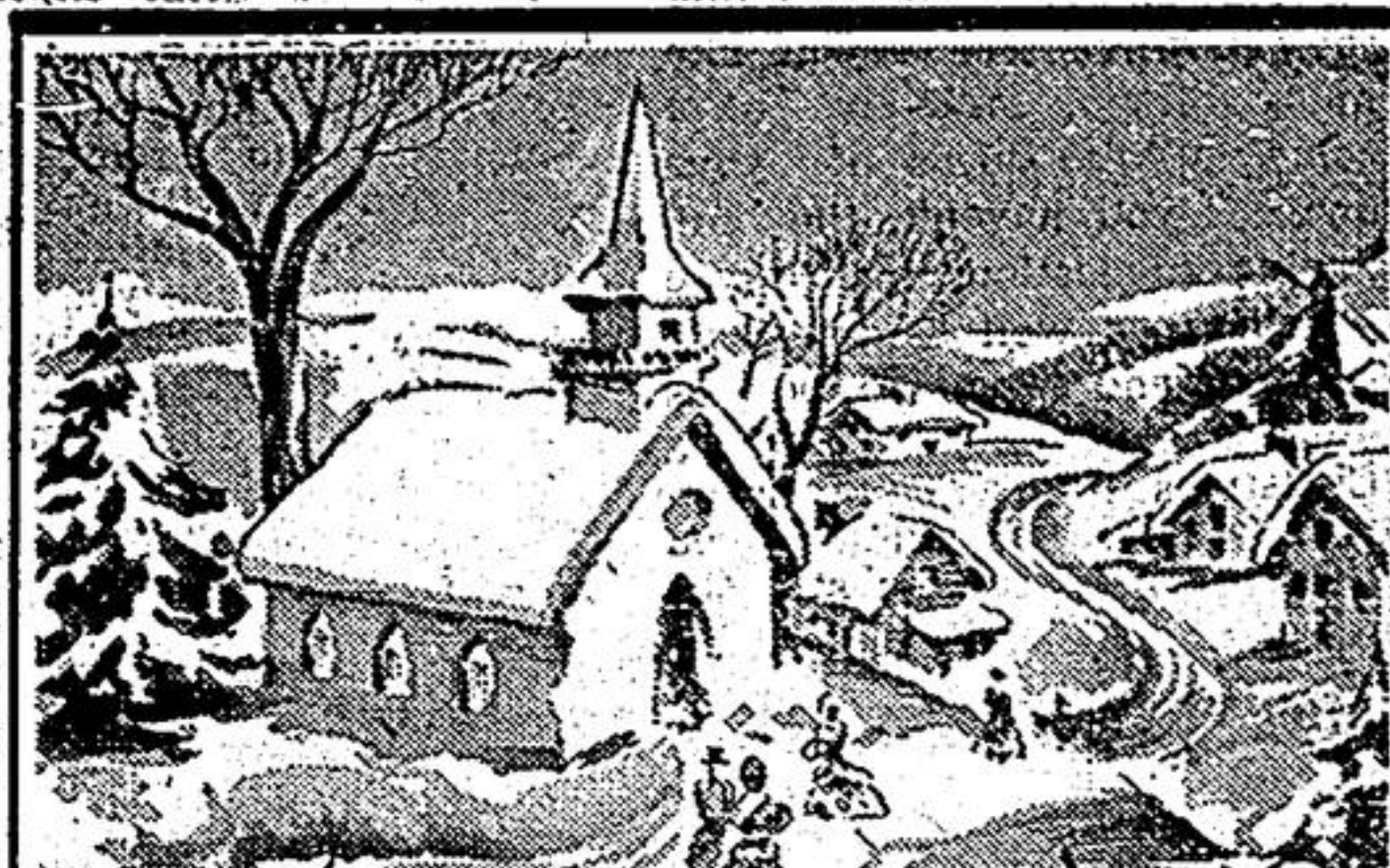
And Mr. Turnbull and his staff are considering the possibility of advising the postmaster-general to drop the old familiar three-cent "red."

It will be the first stamp since Confederation that will be of no use, itself alone, in carrying any kind of mail.

Its prospective print order will run less than 20 million, and in the post office view, perhaps not worth the trouble.

Not only will the three-cent "red" not carry any mail itself, but in combination with the others won't do anything that can't be done in "change-making" with the one, two and four-centers.

"So," said Mr. Turnbull, "it looks now that we'll be dropping it."

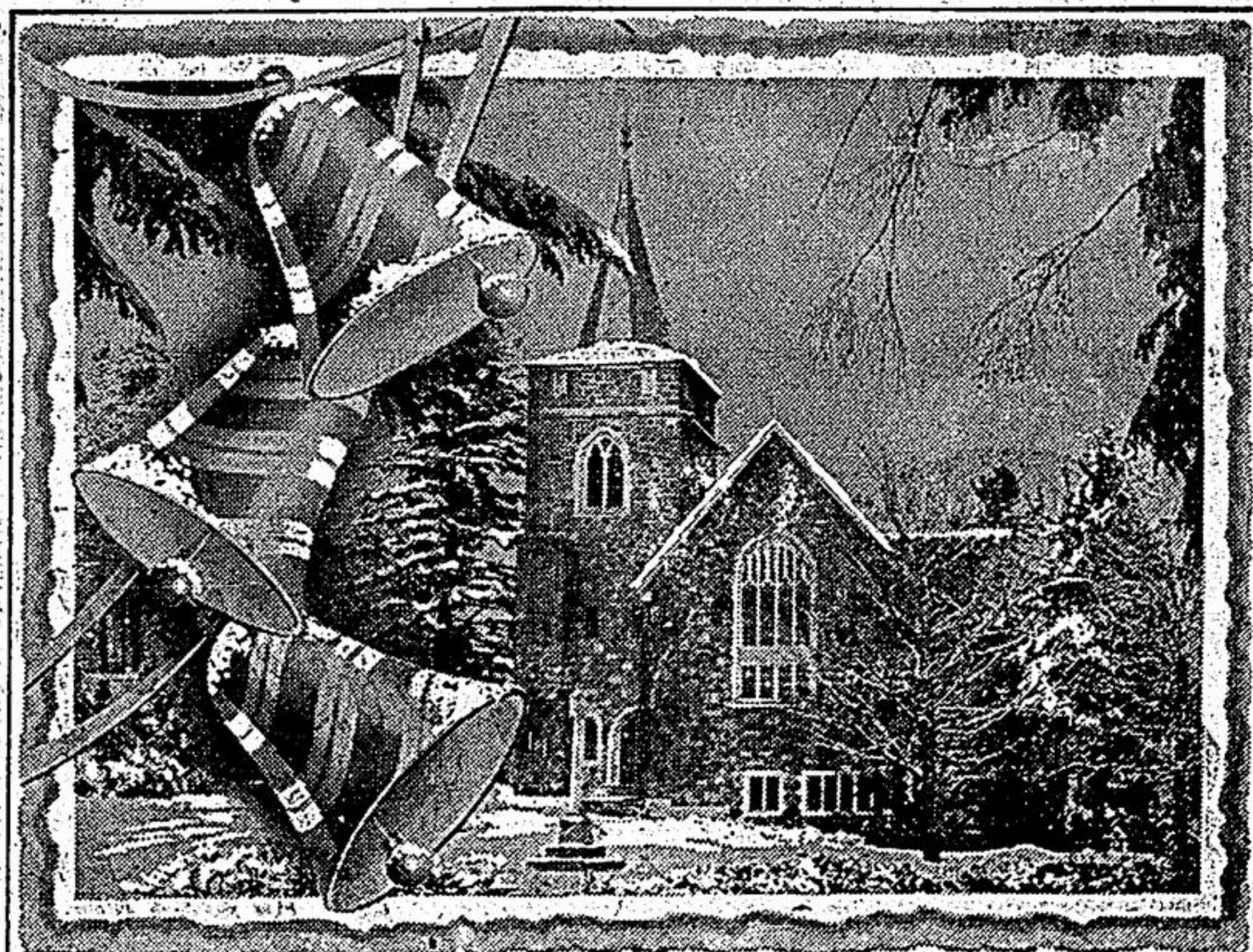


It's Christmas!

FOR NOW...FOR ALWAYS...
may the joys of this Holiday Season surround you and yours, and may you dwell amid the blessings of peace, health goodwill and happiness...

Compliments of

J. L. SMITH
Jeweller & Watchmaker



Season's Greetings

TINKLING BELLS, holly wreaths, winter scenes with evergreens; logs on hearth, candles bright, little faces beam delight... these, to us, are all warm reminders that a very special time is here... so a very special wish is due... May this Holiday Season bring you abounding stores of good cheer, peace and happiness.

Mole Motors Limited

Stouffville

Ontario