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THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY  
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

VOL. 41

LONDON, CANADA

DECEMBER 1967

PRICE 5 CENTS



# Joyous Christmas

## THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM

Come take the road to Bethlehem!  
For on a Christmas night,  
Illumed by a host of stars,  
It's holy way is bright—

As bright as when an amber star  
Hung poised above His bed,  
And Mary bent in joyous awe,  
Beside a drowsy head.

The very One, the Magi knew,  
And knelt before as King,  
Will take with joy a questing heart,  
As richest offering—

The poorest man may lay the gold  
Of worship at His feet;  
And love is frankincense; and myrrh,  
Of sacrifice is sweet.

Here by the Baby of Bethlehem,  
Is comfort for the sad;  
World-weary hearts, made old by sin,  
Grow young once more, and glad;

And all, both rich and poor, may come  
And find a sure release,  
From cares that fret, and doubts that prey,  
Through Him, the Prince of Peace.

O Wondrous Child of Bethlehem!  
O Man of Majesty!  
Who lifted high above the star,  
The Cross of Calvary!

Christ of the lowly manger,  
Christ of Gethsemane,  
Bless any heart this Christmas night,  
That takes the road to Thee!



To One and All



# DUKE ELLINGTON MARKS 40 YEARS IN SHOW BUSINESS

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NEW YORK (AP) — Duke Ellington — who has poured forth more than 1,000 songs, many of which have become part of American culture — seems unpadding by 40 years in show business.

In an interview, the 68-year-old Duke seemed untired after a day in which he worked from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m. writing music, playing piano and leading his band.

Ellington spoke of many things, including his long-time collaborator, Billy Strayhorn, who died recently of cancer.

"We had a relationship that nobody else in the world would understand."

"We wrote 'Jump for Joy' on the telephone one time when he was in Florida. When he was in the hospital, the doctor said to give him something to do. So I said: 'I want an interlude and in the Beginning God is the tilte.' He wrote a theme of six notes representing those first six syllables in the Bible and only two of the notes were different from what I had already written. We were that close."

Of people he's known in jazz, Ellington said: "Just about everybody has contributed something. There are some outstanding influences — Sidney Bechet, Louis Armstrong, Coleman, Hawkins, Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Lester Young."

"With the exception of Bechet, these people were successfully imitated. People built tremendous careers on the imitation of these people. They launched categories, such as bop, based on Parker and Gillespie."

"But there were three imitables — Bechet, Art Tatum and Django Reinhardt. Other

people could get three notes but never an exact thing."

Ellington has been working on liturgical jazz ever since two Episcopal (Anglican) priests heard him at a night club in Redwood City, Calif., and asked him to write a musical service for Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. His In the Beginning God has been much in demand in the United States and Europe.

"I'm one of those people who can't say no. I'm like the girl in Oklahoma. So I say 'oh sure' and before you know it the date is on me and they're saying: 'Where's my music?'"

"I always have to have deadlines. I wrote Black and Tan Fantasy in a taxi coming down through Central Park on my way to the recording studio."

Lately, Ellington has been writing more of the "extended jazz tone poems" which started with Reminiscing in Tempo in 1935 and includes Black, Brown and Beige and Such Sweet Thunder.

He concluded the New York Philharmonic in the premiere of his humorous, still-not-recorded The Golden Broom and the Green Apple — city chick and country chick — in 1965. That work has since been done by guest-conductor Ellington and six other orchestras.

## Christmas Joy

Humble shepherds left their flocks in the fields that holy night, and sought the Babe whose birth angels had proclaimed unto them. They beheld him lying in a manger in the City of David, wrapped in swaddling clothes.

And from the East, following the brilliant Star, Wise Men came to adore, and to offer precious gifts to the newborn King.

Today, nations and peoples share in that first Christmas, in its boundless hope and its promise of peace, with joyous celebrations. May you and your loved ones keep the spirit of this holy season always in your hearts, perpetuating its strength and comfort.

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS

and a  
Happy New Year

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Ellington still likes to travel — "That is part of the big parade."

He seldom walks any place — "I might get fresh air poisoning . . ." never exercises and gave up drinking years ago.

He says he never worries. "The bug disease is the worst disease in the world — letting something bug you."

## Stocking Is Just Legend?

Did a spinster hang up the first Christmas stocking? Legend says yes, but history says no — or at most, "Maybe."

St. Nicholas, a fourth-century bishop, secretly gave gifts of gold for the dowries of poor spinsters. His method was to toss the gold down a chimney by night, at Christmas.

On one occasion, so legend says, the gift landed in a stocking, hung by the fireplace to dry.

History casts a dubious eye on this "origin" of the Christmas stocking custom. The spinster probably didn't have a stocking — not in the fourth

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Published in the interests of and for the Advancement of the Colored people of Canada.

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## Acting Slow

Academy Award winner Sidney Poitier was a bad actor that day, after 23 films, one Oscar and several national awards, himself a versatile actor to tackle almost any role. In the production of a role far different, he plays a Philistine reluctantly murder case in

Born in the South Florida — Poitier in Nassau and rugged diversity, including ditch digging, a worker, pin

Bus driver: "home all right la Passenger: "O do you ask?"

"Well, when and gave the last night, you two passengers

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## Acting Career Built Slowly For Poitier

Academy Award winner Sidney Poitier was once such a bad actor that he flunked an audition for lessons! Today, after 23 films, four plays, one Oscar and several international awards, he considers himself a versatile enough actor to tackle almost any role. "In The Heat of the Night" the production stars Poitier in a role far different from his Academy Award winning performance in "Lilies of the Field." In the crime drama, he plays a Philadelphia detective reluctantly assigned to a murder case in the South.

Born in the South — Miami, Florida — Poitier was raised in Nassau and worked at a rugged diversity of jobs including ditch digger, construction worker, pine-boy, truck-

er and longshoreman before accepting a position as janitor at The American Negro Theatre in exchange for badly needed acting lessons. His natural ability developed and he played bit parts until a Broadway role led him to important roles in "Lysistrata," "Freight," and "Anna Lucasta."

In 1949 Poitier made his film bow in "No Way Out." His excellent acting led to the widely acclaimed performance in "Cry, The Beloved Country" and finally to the part that brought him an international reputation: Miller, in "The Blackboard Jungle."

During his subsequent successful screen career, Poitier has returned to the stage for the lead in "A Raisin in the Sun," which he also played in the motion picture version. Other movies he has starred in include "Paris Blues," "Pressure Point," "Something of Value," "Porgy and Bess," "The Greatest Story Ever Told," "A Patch of Blue," "The Slender Thread" and "To Sir, With Love."

Bus driver: "Did you get home all right last night sir?" Passenger: "Of course. Why do you ask?" "Well, when you got up and gave the lady your seat last night, you were the only two passengers on the bus."



The Buffalo Negro Models Guild pledges its support to the Humboldt YMCA, and present their checks for membership to Mel Davis, Assistant Executive, Humboldt YMCA., L-R: Darlene Thompson, Jacquelynn Thomp-

son, Marion Hernandez, Sarah Smith and Grace Diamond. The Models will organize a "Charm School" for youth and serve as hostess for special YMCA programs.

## Jenkins Does Not Support Negro Boycott of Olympics

As a negro . . . As a professional athlete

Fergie Jenkins does not support a boycott of negro athletes at the Olympic Games in Mexico City next October.

The boycott was unanimously endorsed at the end of a three-day Black youth conference at Los Angeles.

It drew the support of UC LA basketball stars Lew Alcindor and Mike Warren along with sprinters Lee Evans and Tommy Smith, both strong candidates for the U. S. Olympic team.

Jenkins, the 24-year-old Chatham resident won 20 games as a pitcher for the National League Chicago Cubs last season.

"I don't feel the group that met in Los Angeles would get much support from professional athletes," said Fergie.

"There's no reason for the professional athlete who's a Negro to back something like that. You don't find a cause for discrimination in pro sport. The players are there

to make a living. I've never had any problems and I can't think of any other Negro in pro sport who has either."

"I've found pro sport . . . or athletics of any kind for that matter . . . about as free of discrimination as anything you can find," Fergie added.

The only racial incident Jenkins encountered was at Little Rock when he joined the Triple "A" baseball team four years ago. Richie Allen, third baseman with the Philadelphia Phillies, was also a member of that team.

"No Negro had played with the team in Little Rock until that season," Jenkins recalled. "When we first got to Little Rock and got off the airplane, there were a few people with placards protesting against the Negro players but there were no real incidents."

"We found in Little Rock that it was just a matter of time before the people accepted the Negro athlete. I think it was strictly a matter of education. O don't think they have any trouble there new."



# SEASON'S Greetings

It's good to greet our friends and neighbors at this happy holiday season. And it's good to know that we have so many loyal friends and patrons. We value your good will, and cherish the privilege of serving you. Sincere thanks.

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# Canadian Race Relations Mistakes Seen As Eventual Cause Of Riots

Toronto — Canadians are making the same mistakes in race relations the British made 20 years ago, says a Guyanese novelist who lives in Toronto.

"They're letting colored people into the country and burying them," Jan Carew, a writer and former lecturer on race relations at the Univ-

ersity of London, said in an interview.

"The Canadian people will wake up one day and find themselves with race riots, and then they'll ask themselves why."

Leonard Braithwaite, Toronto-born Negro member of the Ontario legislature, says the situation in Canada is

different than in the U.S., where race riots have spread from city to city.

"We don't have the close ghettos of the United States — such as in Newark where I lived two years. And we don't have overt prejudice such as is found in England."

"Although there has been discrimination, we have the law in our side."

Allen Mintz, a lawyer experienced in civil liberties cases, says violent social protests will never spill into Canadian streets because of Canada's restrictive immigration regulations.

"The greatest number of Negroes who get into the country have specific skills," he

said. "They aren't concentrated in any one area. And ... there isn't a significant increase in Negroes getting into Canada."

Although Toronto's Negro population has grown from 4,247 in 1961 to an estimated 20,000, immigration remains at 3.04 per cent of total immigration, compared with 2.1 in 1961.

Mr. Carew says there is no problem here yet, but there are hidden prejudices that

threaten the future.

Rev. William Fitch agrees with Mr. Carew that the seeds of violence are evident in depressed areas of Toronto.

"This is the time for the premier of Ontario with his government, together with the civic rulers of Toronto, to establish a commission ... with adequate powers to explore the real conditions under which the citizens of this city are living," said the Presbyterian minister.

## 'Twas The Night After Christmas

'Twas the night AFTER Christmas and all through the home  
Raged a terrible headache wherever you'd roam:  
The house looked a wreck: there were signs everywhere  
To prove to the world that St. Nick has been there.  
The children were still having fun with their toys—  
And breaking all records for long sustained noise.  
When out of the hall there arose such a clatter  
I opened the door to see what was the matter:  
And what to my wondering eyes should appear  
But a man in distress and devoid of all cheer;  
He lay on the floor of the corridor narrow  
And out of the small of his back stuck an arrow  
It had come from the bow of his own little lad—  
I knew in a moment it must be poor dad!  
I rushed for the phone and had just turned around  
When mother crashed into the room with a bound,  
Pursued by a child with a rifle. Oh, well,  
It seems that, to please him, she played William Tell;  
The apple was okay but mother was not—  
There wasn't a shadow of doubt she'd been shot;  
The kid was still shooting his airgun — how merry!  
He yelled, "Play some more, ma! It's funny, ma, very!"  
Then out of his room tottered old Uncle Lew,  
His arm in a sling and one leg I think too;  
He'd helped little Oscar try out a new sled,  
And had quite a gash on the top of his head;  
He'd also been playing with Ethelbert's skis,  
And murmured quite weakly, "The ambulance please!"  
Next grandpa came wallowing out of the bath—  
(I never had seen any man in such wrath)—  
He looked all awash; he was all dripping wet.  
His clothes were all soused; he was angry, you bet;  
It served him quite right; any man is a dub  
When he tries to sail children's toy boats in the tub!  
I stood there aghast when my aged Aunt Nell  
Swept through on Ned's roller skates, going pell-mell;  
She upset the tree ... there were sparks from a wire ...  
I knew in an instant the house was on fire!  
Then things all went black and when next I came to  
I was out on the lawn with a pulmotor crew;  
The house was still burning, the kids every one,  
Were dancing and cheering and having such fun!  
The fire chief stood and completed his work;  
He snickered a bit, then he turned with a jerk,  
And laying a finger aside of his nose,  
And giving a nod, he said, "Roll up the hose!"  
He jumped in his car, sounded siren and whistle  
And away he then flew like the down from a thistle.  
And I heard him explain to his smoke-eating boys,  
"Well, adults will play with the kid's Christmas toys!"

—Anonymous

## When Father Carved The Boar's Head

What roast turkey is to Christmas dinner today, the boar's head was to the Yuletide feasting of Medieval England.

Preparation for the feasting began during September or October when the boar's flesh was at its best. Hunters tracked the animal down with well-trained packs of boarhounds and it was dangerous sport, attacking the ferocious beast with spears or surrounding him and driving him into a net.

His ear was his most vulnerable spot, but before the dogs could get a grip on it and pin him down, his sheep teeth often wounded—sometimes even killed—the hunter and his dogs.

Nevertheless, the pluckier the boar, the louder his praises were sung, the merrier the feasting, when his head was borne to the Christmas table.

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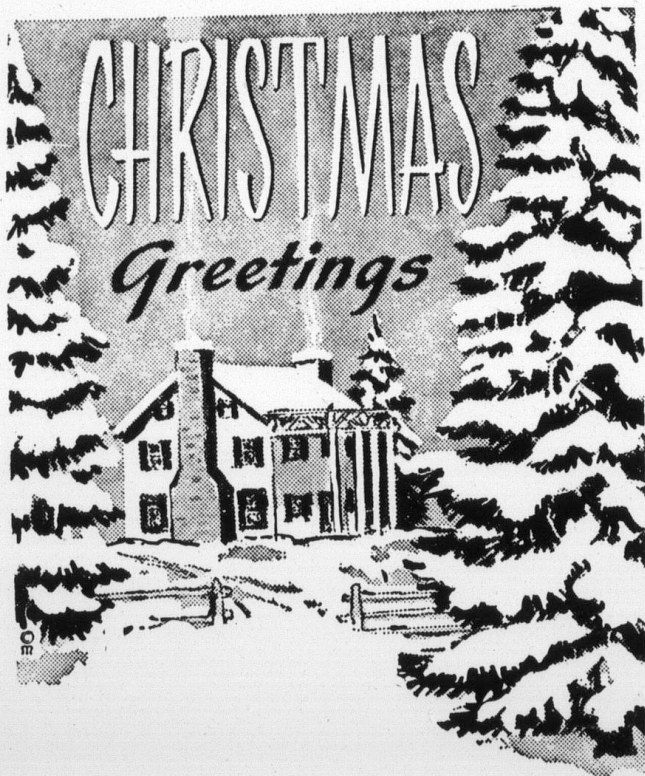
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## Belafonte Speaks Out

Harry Belafonte is much more than a "performer." He is a major influence in the civil rights movement in the United States.

In this exclusive article, Mr. Belafonte reflects on the rising Negro unrest in this "long hot summer" in America, and considers some of its implication.

BY HARRY BELAFONTE

The white community has done the civil rights movement an incredible disservice.

Had they been capable of responding to the humanist theories and expressions of Dr. Martin Luther King, had they shown some good will and worked to alleviate the problems of the black community and the ghetto life, we would be in a much more favorable position today.

But the white community has frustrated Dr. King's non-violent efforts and now there is more repression than before. Although we have some legislation on the books— we can stay in certain hotels, eat in certain restaurants— it still doesn't begin to touch the real problems of political and economic destitution that the Negro community faces. Until the Negroes have their own political and economic power, this legislation means nothing.

Once the Negro community tried valiantly to apply the techniques of non-violence but they were fully rejected and now many of our young men are finding they have no other course but violence.

I would rather see it work in other ways: I'm not for the violence, but I understand why it happens.

As far as the Negro is concerned, I still don't think it is too late to reach understanding, because the Negro would be willing to accept an honest program toward alleviating the pressure and pain of second-class citizenship. But I think it's too late for the white community.

I think the white community is unfolding an incredible sense of immorality, of selfishness, of decay. And I don't know how much of that cancerous body of greed can be repaired. I don't know what the salvation of the white community can be at this point.

This is going to be the longest, hottest summer we've had to date and the hotter and longer they get, the more repressive will be the measures applied by the federal state and local governments.

I mean the military and the police are going to be much more repressive in their behavior and the Negro community is going to resort to stronger means of retaliation.

Mohammed Ali (Negro heavyweight fighter Cassius Clay, recently convicted of refusing armed service on religious grounds, as a Black Moslem, and sentenced to five years in prison) has taken an incredibly courageous stand.

It would have been so much easier for him to go into the service and follow some sort of public relations career as other athletes of his stature have done. But by his behavior he has exposed the double standards that exist for both Negroes and whites.

Although there are many things in Mohammed Ali's philosophical code that I cannot lend myself to—because his is a separatist philosophy and I am not a separatist—I nevertheless embrace him fully on a moral basis.

I must admit that I am not surprised by the severity of his sentence. I am sure that if the statutes had permitted an even greater penalty, the courts would have imposed it.

For when the Establishment is threatened, it is capable of anything . . . of dropping atom bombs, of escalating war . . . even capable of turning its back on the terrible miscarriage of justice where Negroes have been destroyed in many southern and northern cities by racists.

The halls of justice have been so silent at a time when Negroes needed them most.

But I think that his conviction and sentence will have ramifications other than those intended. He is respected by so much of the Negro youth, his stand will encourage a more intense response from them to the issues.

What would happen now if 10,000 black men marched on Washington to burn their draft cards and declare themselves before the White House? Would the government imprison all 10,000?

They might very well. But then they would have to imprison 100,000 and more and more until it would become such a scandal that I don't believe even the pretenders to a Jeffersonian concept of democracy could swallow it.

And, believe me, such a thing is being considered very strongly by some Negro leaders.

There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the majority of Negroes regard the Vietnam war as a further extension of American racist practices.

Remember there are 500,000 or more American troops in Vietnam and almost 30 percent of those are Negroes, although they represent only 20 percent of the population.

The reason for this imbalance is easily seen: Very few Negroes qualify for exemptions from the draft because they are not in institutions of higher learning, nor are they employed in what are considered strategic industries. And how easy it is, rather than giving redress to the grievances of the Negro, to take him and ship him off to the Vietnamese front.

I am an American and I would not choose to be anything else. But I will not try to whitewash our warlike conduct, our immorality. This is the America of Jefferson and Lincoln, of an amazing Constitution and of the potential and resources to do magnificent things.

If we who call ourselves Americans can bring this part of America to the fore, then we will have served the cause of humanity as well as the nation.

I must admit that I have thought of leaving America to give my children a place where they can grow up understanding what it is to be a fully-fledged, free human being. America does much to rob the Negro of his dignity and to distort him psychologically as a human being.

I have thought about coming to Canada to live, or going to the West Indies, while the children are growing. I could do this and still earn a good living.

But there are some who look to me for commitment in America. I don't know that I could abandon Dr. King, or the Student Non-Violent Co-ordinating Committee, or the Peace Movement. I am needed more here, for what little I can contribute, than I am anywhere else in the world.

HIS WHITE BEARD,  
RED SUIT ARE  
RECENT GARB

Genial, jovial, red-cheeked and white-bearded. As any child can tell you, that's how Santa Claus looks.

But the benevolent giver of presents has not always been pictured like this, nor has he always travelled by sleigh or brought his gifts on Christmas Eve. In fact, he has not always been named Santa Claus!

"Santa Claus" is in truth a child's euphonic way of expressing the Dutch "Saint Nikolaas," or St. Nicholas, says The Encyclopedia Americana.

St. Nicholas, a four-century bishop, was later honored, in Europe, as a friend to children. Legend finds him making his rounds on December 5th, the eve of St. Nicholas Day, with gifts to reward children for good behaviour.

Instead of a jolly red suit, St. Nicholas wore a robe, or tabard, and for that reason he really didn't need a sleigh, or even a horse. His robe enabled him to travel from place to place, instantly.

In Holland, however, he was said to use a horse for his journey at night over the roofs.

Dutch settlers brought St. Nicholas to the New World, where he gradually changed his name to Santa Claus and traded his horse and robe for reindeer and a red suit.

It was Clement C. Moore, in his poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas," who made Santa into a jolly elf "Saint Nick," who rides "in a miniature sleigh drawn by eight tiny reindeer."

In more recent years, St. Nicholas in his new guise as Santa Claus has journeyed to many parts of the world, becoming the most widely known of gift givers.

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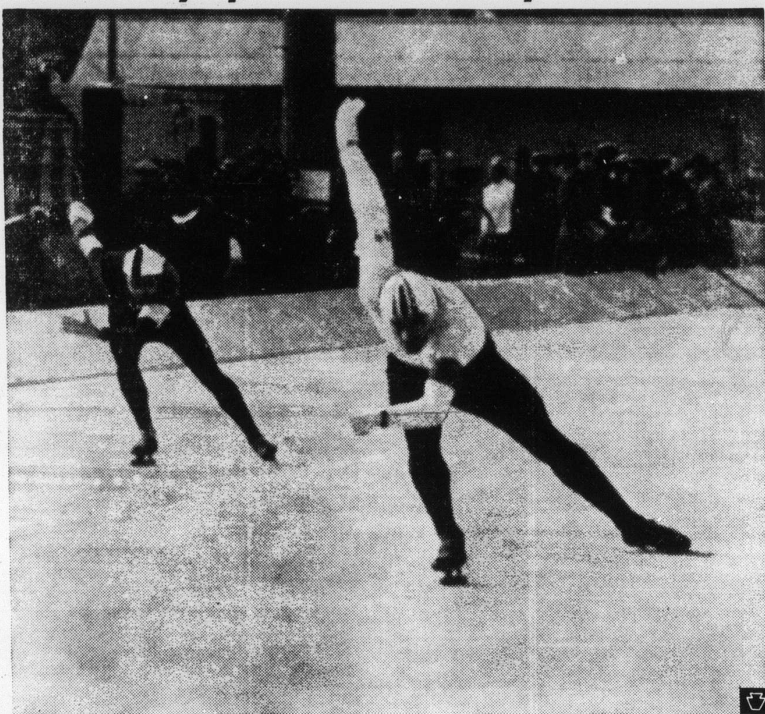
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# THE DAWN OF TOMORROW

## New Olympic Records On Special Ice?



Here's winning form of Cees Verkerk of Holland, one of the world's fastest skaters.

GRENOBLE, FRANCE — Skaters practice on what may be the world's fastest ice at this French Alpine town, site of the February Winter Olympics. A special mineral-free ice is being used, produced by new Culligan water conditioning equipment. Deionized water, normally used for industrial purposes, such as washing of electronic components, contains less than 2 parts per million of dissolved minerals. The potential importance of low solids ice was first noticed by the Russians whose skating times were faster just after a rain. The simple scientific explanation is that as hard water freezes its minerals separate, making ice uneven in texture and hardness and causing the skaters' blades to become dull.

## Christmas Spirit Year 'Round

At this time of the season when we mark the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, with festivities and gift giving, we are mindful that those who give themselves, give the most and grow the richer for their unselfishness.

The kindly word, the spontaneous smile, the thoughtful deed — those are the outward expressions of the goodness inside hearts and minds

of men. Those of us in the newspaper business in our efforts to record the little things that make news in our community day by day, often wish there were less pettiness in our community—indeed, in the world, and more of the spirit of Christmas scattered throughout the year. To keep Christmas we must be willing to forget what we

have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for us — to ignore what the world owes and to think what we owe the world — to put your rights in the background, and your duties in the middle distance, and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground — to see that your fellow men are just as real as you are — and try to look behind their faces into their hearts — to realize the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life — but what you are going to give to life — to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around for a place to sow a few seeds of happiness.

The day that marks the birth of Jesus brings with it a rebirth of faith and hope and a realization that deep down inside each person there are qualities of unselfishness, loyalty and devotion to the highest principles of God and man.

It is those qualities that make Christmas the most joyous season of all.

Truly, there is "joy in the world" in abundant evidence through self-giving, of hands clasped in friendship, of hearty wishes. How insignificant are the little troublesome things of the world in the light of the Christmas spirit that pervades the world.

And so we again join in the gladness of the season to wish all our friends and subscribers—

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# Spirit Of Giving Lives In Quebec's Colorful Tradition

The traditional spirit of giving that's world-wide at Christmastime takes on a special form and meaning in French Quebec. This year, as every year, will see the enactment of a masquerade known as "La Guignolee," to benefit all the poor of Quebec.

"La Guignolee" was begun by the first French colonists who settled in Quebec. But historians date the custom to the Druidic rite which cele-

brated the arrival of a new year: the cutting — with golden scythes — and the gathering of mistletoe that grew in the sacred forests.

## Dress Like Trappers

The French version of "La Guignolee" has been kept

alive for modern Quebec by such organizations as the St. Vincent de Paul Society. It involves a door-to-door collection for the poor by "Les Guignoleurs."

Since 1901, the role of "Les Guignoleurs" has been played by members of the Commercial Travelers Club of Quebec, Inc.

These modern businessmen dress like the Canadian trappers of old, with their red knit caps and colorful sashes. Singing the song of "La Guignolee," they approach each householder with a long, red

woolen stocking, to be filled by gifts for the poor.

"Les Guignoleurs" of early Quebec had a very different method of attaining their goal. Arriving at the homes of the villagers, they sang a song that asked for a contribution or threatened the abduction of the eldest daughter of the household.

## Fights Did Happen

The master and mistress of the house, or someone representing them, then opened the door and allowed "Les Guignoleurs" to enter.

Gifts were placed in a bag

and later emptied into a cart that followed along behind them through the village, accompanied by a swarm of children and dogs.

Sometimes, when two different groups of "Les Guignoleurs" met, a fight ensued and the treasures of one cart would fill up the cart of the winners.

## Aiding the Needy

Originally, food and clothing as well as money was collected. But for the past twenty years it has been only money, and the generous people of Quebec have contributed as much as \$30,000 for the poor.

The money is deposited in a bank, and cheques are issued to the parish priests of the city who use the money to aid all the needy, regardless of religious denomination.

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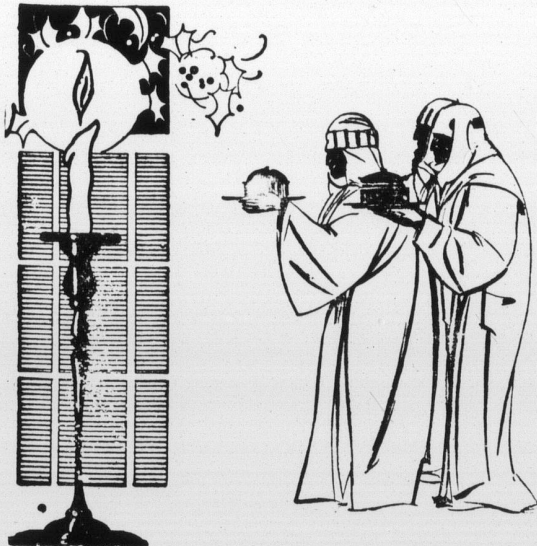
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## SEASON'S GREETINGS

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# HISTORY PROVES IT—

For the children, this is the very best Christmas that ever was. The adults agree — but still, they look back a little wistfully at the Christmases of yesteryear, with nostalgic thoughts of "a good old-fashioned Christmas," or of a special Christmas memory.

Memories enhance the seasonal joys, and with good reason, for Christmas is a memorable time. Since the first Holy Night, some of the most important events of both religious and secular history have taken place at the Christmas season.

A look at the past reveals momentous occasions, joyous or poignant, as well as many of the little things that give bygone times living meaning — and all taking place on or about Christmas Day.

\* \* \*

## December 25, 600 A.D.

Traditionally, the first Christmas feast in England was held at the Round Table of King Arthur. The actual date is unknown, but references to this legendary king have been traced to 600 A.D.

## December 24-25, 1620

December 1620 marked the landing of the Mayflower at Plymouth Rock. A site for the first home in the new settlement was selected on Christmas Eve, and on Christmas

## BRINGING GIFTS

At the heart of the holiday fun and feasting there glows the spirit of giving. The Wise Men sought to honor the Christ Child with rare and precious gifts — gold, frankincense and myrrh. Thus, to give of the best at Christmas is a time-honored tradition.

All may rejoice in the opportunity to give generously to please family and friends with "just what they wanted," and to share with the less fortunate.

Yet the best Christmas gifts are still those that come from the open heart as well as the open hand, and the warmth of a friendly smile, the words of a cordial greeting add priceless meaning to the most elaborate of gifts.

"Happy Christmas to all,  
and to all a good-night."

Day construction began.

## December 25, 1776

On December 25-26, 1776, George Washington crossed the Delaware. He surprised, and put to rout, Hessian sol-

diers employed by George III.

The surprise attack was greatly assisted by the fact that the Hessians were sleeping off the effects of their Christmas celebrating!

# THE PINATA

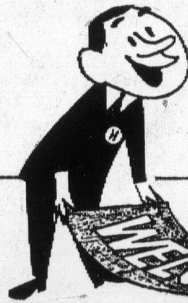
The pinata game is a favourite one in Latin America. Why not make one for your Christmas party in Canada?

The pinata is a cheap pottery jar filled with candies and decorating in some interesting and amusing way. A substitute for pottery might be a very strong paper bag or a cardboard box. Candy, nuts, and prizes placed inside should be wrapped and then the top sealed. In our picture we have a bag decorated with a Santa mask. Many other ideas may be used e.g. wrapped as a large Christmas present.

The pinata should be hung on a long rope, the ends of which are held as high as possible by two people standing on chairs. They pull the rope taut or let it down as they try to keep it from getting broken.

The children, beginning with the smallest, take turns being IT. He is blindfolded and given a long tight newspaper roll. He is turned around three times and then allowed to break the pinata, if he can. Several tries and then the next one takes a turn.

When the pinata is finally broken everyone scrambles to get his share. A special prize should go to the one who finally breaks the pinata as he will be delayed in taking off his blindfold.



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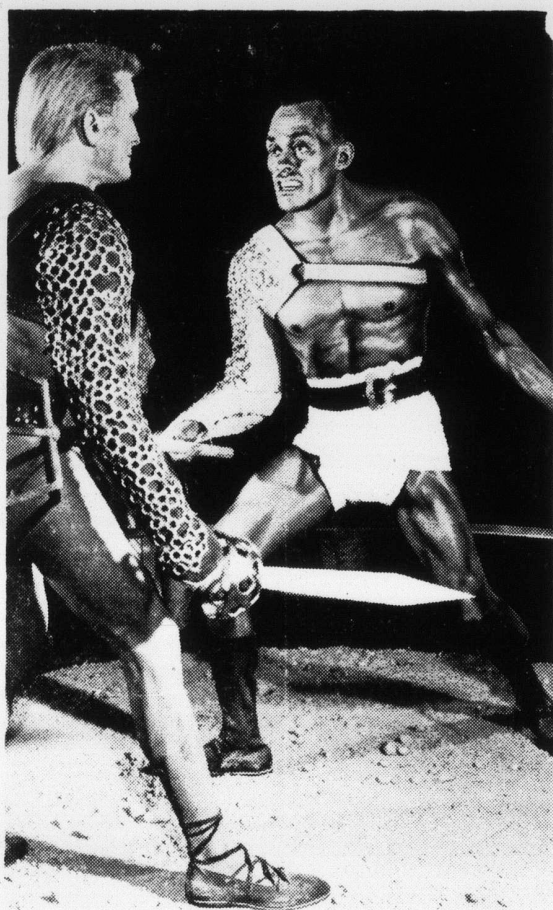
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ACTOR AND FORMER FOOTBALL STAR — Woody Strode has been immortalized at Movieland Wax Museum, Buena Park, Calif., in scene from film "Spartacus," which is in current re-release. Tableau depicts climatic hand-to-hand gladiator combat between Strode and film's star Kirk Douglas. Strode and Douglas join more than 100 other greats of motion pictures and television in stars' hall of fame.

## SEASON'S GREETINGS

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## Negroes Score Many Firsts In U.S., State Civic Votes

Negroes won a variety of offices in U.S. elections, including some historic firsts. Here is a list of Negro winners:

Democrat Carl B. Stokes won his battle to become mayor of Cleveland — and the first Negro chief executive of eighth largest American city.

Democrat Richard G. Hatcher emerged the winner by 1,495 votes in the race for mayor of Gary, Ind.

Dr. W. Ferguson Reid, a surgeon, became the first Negro member of the Virginia state legislature since the reconstruction days following the American Civil War. He is a Democrat.

The Mississippi state legislature also saw its first Negro since the reconstruction era with the apparent election of Robert Clark, an independent by the voters of predominantly-Negro Holmes County.

James M. Brady was easily elected sheriff in Charles City County southeast of Richmond, Va., defeating a white incumbent who had held the post 43 years.

Mrs. Iona W. Adkins, a housewife and teacher's aide, was the Charles City County clerk's post by a substantial margin.

William C. Ross Jr., was elected to the school commit-

tee in Pittsfield, Mass., and James H. Wynn to the regional school committee in North Adams, Mass. They were both the first Negroes elected to public office in those towns.

In Boston, where the race issue was an often unspoken factor in the mayor's race, Thomas Atkins, 28, a Harvard law school student, was elected to the city council—the first Negro to sit on that body in modern memory.

Municipal Court Judge William Parker was re-elected in Waterloo, O., the site of racial disturbances last summer.

In Jacksonville, Fla., three of four Negro candidates won Democratic nominations over whites.

In addition to Clark, six

Negroes were elected to county offices in Mississippi, increasing to 24 the number of Negro office holders in that state.

Of the six, two won posts as county supervisors, two as constables and two as justices of the peace.

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With tinselled boughs and holly,  
May Christmas bring you every wish  
With a New Year bright and jolly.

. . . FROM A FRIEND

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### HONORING CHRISTMAS, IN POETRY AND PROSE

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

So wrote Charles Dickens, for whom Christmas was a favorite topic — so much so that most people, asked to name someone who wrote about Christmas, would immediately answer, "Dickens."

Not only Dickens, but almost every writer, from the little-known to the famous, has been inspired at some time in his career to "honor Christmas" in prose or poetry.

For instance—  
At Christmas I no more  
desire a rose  
Than wish a snow in May's  
new-fangled mirth.  
But like of each thing that  
in season grows.  
William Shakespeare

At Christmas play and make  
good cheer,  
For Christmas comes but  
once a year.

Thomas Tusser  
For somehow, not only at  
Christmas, but all the  
long year through,  
The joy that you give to  
others is the joy that  
comes back to you.  
John Greenleaf Whittier

England was merry England,  
when  
Old Christmas brought his  
sports again.

Sir Walter Scott  
I heard the bells on Christ-  
mas Day  
Their old familiar carols  
play,  
And soft and sweet the  
words repeat,  
"God is not dead, nor doth  
he sleep."

Henry Wadsworth  
Longfellow

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Those who give  
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## The Greatest Gift

Those who give themselves grow richer.

The kindly word, the spontaneous smile, the thoughtful deed — those are outward expressions of the goodness inside the hearts and minds of men.

Those of us in the newspaper business must record the little things that make news day by day. Often we wish there were less of pettiness in the world and more of the spirit of Christmas scattered throughout the year. But the day that marks the birth of Jesus brings with it a rebirth of faith and hope and a realization that deep down inside each person there are Christ-like qualities of unselfishness, loyalty and devotion to the highest principles of God and man. It is those qualities which make Christ-

# "To Sir, With Love"

## Warm and Dramatic

"To Sir, With Love" is a motion picture about a teacher and his students, with mas the most joyous season of all.

Truly, there is "joy to the world" in abundant evidence of self-giving, of hands clasped in friendship, of hearty good wishes. How insignificant are the little troublesome things of the world in the light of the Christmas spirit that pervades the world!

And so we again join in the gladness of the season to wish all our friends and subscribers

A Merry Christmas

the starring role played by Sidney Poitier, who faces the challenge of a difficult and insubordinate group of youngsters in a problem school in London's East End. It is a warm, dramatic story of how the teacher in changing the lives and outlook of his students, also changes his own.

It is believed by many that "To Sir, With Love" filmed on location by Columbia Pictures in London, offers the best starring vehicle for Poitier and he in turn demonstrates his superb acting talent that has grown with his career.

Though Poitier's students are "problem" youngsters who have not fitted into normal schools, the kids are basically good. Their unruly, rebellious behaviour is a reflection of bad upbringing, parental neglect, and indifference. They are products of the slums. By treating them as young adults and not as "kids" Poitier gives them a new outlook, an awareness of their responsibilities.

"To Sir, With Love" filmed in Technicolor and the wide screen, is based on E. R. Braithwaite's book of the same title, written about his experiences as a teacher in London. Mr. Braithwaite, a citizen of Guyana (formerly British Guiana) who has spent the last six years in Europe, was recently named by his government to head the Permanent Mission of Guyana to the United Nations. Ambassador Braithwaite is now living in New York City.

James Clavell demonstrates his capabilities as the writer-producer-director of Columbia Pictures' "To Sir, With Love," in putting Braithwaite's book into film form.

Clavell is the author of two outstanding best-selling novels, "Tai Pan," which has dominated book lists for the past year; and "King Rat"

which was released as a Columbia Picture.

Of his role in "To Sir, With Love," Academy Award-Winning actor Poitier says: "It

was something I really wanted to do. I read the book. I liked it. It is warm, human, ingratiating."

This estimate from a distinguished and accomplished actor carries weight and significance, because Poitier is hard to please, highly critical, and highly selective, choosing his roles with extraordinary care. So when he opines that "To Sir, With Love" is good, in anybody else's language that means it must be "great."

## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

And the angel said unto them "Fear not for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, Which is Christ the Lord."

Fear not, for behold I bring you good news. When the angels appeared to the shepherds, who were in the fields tending their flocks, they must have been filled with fear at the suddenness of what was happening. Today we also have fears in our hearts. For some it may be the fear of death; or the fear of losing ones health and prosperity—or fear of any kind.

It was in an atmosphere of fear that the angel brought the comforting words. "Fear not." The angel brought good tidings. A Saviour was born.

At Christmas time we prepare presents for the children, some for our relatives and friends. So it is that at this season God gives us a present. That present is His only begotten Son.

Unto you is born this day a Saviour which is Christ the Lord. This Saviour is God's gift to us. Jesus was born for us and for our Salvation. He came to save us from our sins and to give all who had faith in Him—the gift of eternal life.

Let us try to go back, in our minds, to that first Christmas and see what happened there. The first event was the arrival of the holy family at Bethlehem. The fulness of Mary's time was come. She was ready to give birth to her child. This child was to be called Emmanuel which being interpreted is "God with us." The angels fell down to worship and rose up to sing.

Then after the birth of the Christ Child the angels appeared unto a few shepherds who were watching their flock by night. The angels message was: "Unto you is born this day a Saviour." And the heavenly host sang "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men of goodwill."

So often we can be so busy with many things in this world and as a result miss Christ. We are living in a world today which seems to have no room for God, with its imperialism, war, murder, lust and greed. Yet we can, if we will, make room for Him in our hearts.

Christmas will always be empty and un-meaningful, until we possess the Christ Child in our hearts. He is the Saviour of the world and He wants to be your Saviour as well. This was His purpose in coming into the world. "Thou shalt call His name Jesus for He will save His people from their sins."

## Merry Christmas to All



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# SHEPHERDS

Are you  
among the shepherds,  
watching on the hillside?

Do you sense the sudden stillness  
stiffening the air,  
and feel about you all life grow taut  
with unaccountable expectancy?

Do you notice  
how the sheep stop their snuffling,  
your companions their murmuring,  
moon stops swinging in and out of clouds,  
night insects hover on the air?

Does the sense  
of some Immanence  
draw you all together  
in silent comradeship, an awareness  
of some Presence?

Is your mind  
singing with excitement,  
racing to overtake itself, or  
is it paralyzed and dumb with fear?

Watch the sky, Shepherds,  
for the earth is asleep.  
Watch the sky.  
See how the moon has vanished  
and the clouds split clear.

See the light! Listen!  
A shepherd needs good ears.  
No, don't laugh at yourself,  
You can hear what you hear.  
And don't cover your eyes,  
You can see what is there.

This is the consummation of your life-work.  
You have watched and listened.  
You have cared for that which needed care,  
waiting prepared  
to ward off any danger.

This is your reward.  
So shall the shepherds of the world, for all  
time to come, be those chosen first to see the  
Christ.

## Three Wise Men Historical Puzzle: Relics at Cologne

Biblically we know very little about the Wise Men who came from the East bearing gifts to the Christ Child and, having adorned Him as the King of the Jews, returned to their own country.

It is generally accepted that there were three Wise Men because of the three specifically mentioned gifts: church tradition has identified these as Melchior, Caspar, and Balthasar; Melchior, king of Arabia, brought a casket of gold; Caspar, king of Tarsus, brought myrrh; and Balthasar, king of Ethiopia, brought frankincense. These gifts are considered symbolic of what Jesus was to become—gold for a king, frankincense for a high priest, and myrrh for a great physician. Collectively, the Wise Men received the gifts of charity and spiritual wealth, perfect faith, truth and meekness.

When they returned to their own country, the three Kings reputedly sold their possessions and went about preaching the Christ-King. Legend continues, that they were martyred in India for their faith.

The bodies of the Wise Men, transferred to Constantinople in the fourth century—by the Empress Helena, mother of Constantine—were enshrined at Milan for a while after the first Crusade. Frederick Barbarossa authorized removal of the relics to Cologne where they remain to this day deposited within the magnificent Cathedral of Cologne.

## MESSAGE OF THE BELLS

I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
The old familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet,  
The words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head,  
"There is no peace on earth," I said,  
"For hate is strong,  
And mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep;  
"God is not dead, nor both He sleep;  
The wrong shall fail,  
The right prevail,  
With peace on earth, good-will to men."

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Happy New Year

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## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

"When it is dark, you can see the stars"  
Historian Chas. Beard

Whenever we feel pessimistic concerning the future of humanity, we can remember this: That, with all his fears and failings, man has yet somehow managed to put the brightest of his festivals in the darkest part of the year. The harkness of this festival, continuing, as it has, through many thousands of years, and rising, stage by stage, from primitive frenzy to pagan jubilation and finally to the exaltation of Christian observance, gives us true cause for confidence and reassurance. When it is darkest, man celebrates the light. Perhaps this is the thought above all others that Christmas can cheer us with this year. It is the inner significance, the spiritual essence of Christmas that can mean most to us.

Some people feel shocked when they discover that Christmas stories and Christmas customs are so much older than Christianity, but they ought to feel encouraged and heartened. For it means that these stories and usages are deeply rooted—thousands of years more deeply rooted—in human experience. They have stayed quite close to the inner truth from which they draw substance; the truth that man must find his faith, not in the daylight but in the dark. If he is ever to come to the light of morning, he must carry his own light with him through the night. He must proclaim in the desert a highway when there is no way at all—not even a path or trail.

He must—and evidently he can. Here is something that right back to the beginning, farther than thought can reach, back into the primitive from which we come. Here is something that beckons to us also from the future, that belongs to the very nature of the human spirit. It kindles a light, and no matter how little a light it is, the darkness can not put it out. It says: Be not afraid, be good and be true are stronger than anything that stands against them, and sooner or, later, will prevail. The darkness is vast, truly, but across it there is a path of light—a path of moving light.

"And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehendeth it not." John: 1:15.

Merry Christmas . . . and Happy New Year

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# Famous People Call Yule Their Birthday

A young farmer's wife in England gave birth to a son in 1642. In 1821, a baby girl was born in the Massachusetts village of Oxford. In 1865, the wife of a militant Christian crusader gave birth to her fourth daughter. And in 1883, in Paris, an artist's model bore a baby boy.

What did these four births have in common? In each case the child was born on Christmas Day, and grew up to become a famous person. According to the Book of Knowledge, these well-known "Christmas babies" were Clara Barton, Evangeline Booth, Maurice Utrillo and Sir Isaac Newton.

#### Founder of Red Cross

Clara Barton, Civil War nurse, was born on Christmas Day in 1821. It was her farm thoughts of Christmas that led her, when she set off to visit her brother, a prisoner during the Civil War, to offer to take presents not only to

him but the prisoner relatives of all her Oxford, Mass., neighbors.

Subsequently, Clara Barton was instrumental in founding the American Red Cross and served as its president for many years.

#### In Salvation Army

Born on Christmas Day in 1865, Evangeline Booth was the fourth daughter of the Salvation Army founder, William Booth. By the age of 23, she was head of the Salvation Army in London, and in 1904 she took over operations for the entire United States.

During World War I, the Salvation Army lassies under her jurisdiction spent Christmas—as well as many other days—ministering to the needs of American doughboys in France. The word "doughboy" stems from the celebrated Salvation Army doughnut, a World War I staple.

#### Known for Paintings

One Christmas-born child had little cheer in his life, on

holidays or otherwise. This was the French painter, Maurice Utrillo, born on December 25, 1883.

Son of an unknown father and a mother who was a model for many of the Montmartre brush wielders of her time, young Maurice was shy and withdrawn, not only in childhood but throughout his life.

Ironically, reproductions of many of his paintings, particularly those of the sparkling white dome of the Montmartre Church of Sacre Coeur, are used by the thousands every year on Christmas cards.

#### He Invented Toys

Sir Isaac Newton, English physicist, mathematician, philosopher greeted his first Christmas, and his first day in Lincolnshire, England, in 1642.

Frail and sickly as a youth, he devoted many boyhood Decembers to inventing and making Christmas toys.

## Tree or Torch?

Canada's list of fire tragedies is enlarged each Christmas season by a frightening number of preventable mishaps. The National Safety League of Canada claims these disasters could be avoided by a simple set of precautions.

First, the League warns, a dry Christmas tree is an invitation to disaster. In fact, a tree that becomes dry enough, if exposed to flame, will explode. Make certain, NSL says, the tree is fresh when purchased, then stand it in water and keep the water replenished. Dispose of the tree as soon as possible after the holiday.

If the tree is metallic, take great care with decorations, particularly electrical ones, for a power leak could burn or kill anyone who touched the tree. The league advises using off-tree floor or spot lighting instead of lights on a metal tree.

For all lights, warns the League, inspect the cords regularly and replace worn ones. New strings of lights should carry the Canadian Standards Association approval label. Turn lights off at night and when leaving the house even for a short time.

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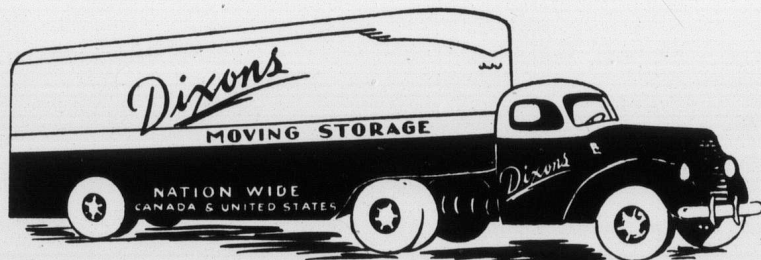
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# "Living Legend Of Goodness" Mrs. Minnie Harris, 86, Dies

Minnie Harris was buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens in London recently. She died at the age of 86.

Mrs. Harris was not rich or famous in any worldly sense. Yet she had these attributes in her own way. She had faced and overcome problems most of us will never see.

Around the homes of the rich, the elite, and the ordinary London people, Mrs.

Harris was not just another colored housekeeper. She was a friend. She worked with the same families for years. She survived on her pay and a veteran's allowance from her only son who was killed in the First World War.

Despite her meagre income, Mrs. Harris managed to raise 17 children besides her own two, and became a living leg-

end of goodness around her home at 11 Maitland St.

A friend of long standing described Mrs. Harris as "the finest character I have ever come in contact with" and as a person who had a wonderful philosophy of life.

Every one of the 17 children who grew up at the Harris residence managed to return periodically to visit her.

Mrs. Harris and her hus-

band, Robert, moved to London in 1905 from the southern United States. They started a small store at their residence and when her husband died in 1926, Mrs. Harris started to work out.

She first took in eight nephews and nieces when their mother died in childbirth, including the infant; then four orphans from the Groat family, the youngest being three months old; another child from a family named Prior; and then added four homeless neighborhood children to her brood.

Mrs. Harris raised the children and worked until about 20 years ago. She has since lived with her daughter, who is now 70, in Detroit. and then at a St. Thomas nursing home.

## Funeral Recalls Jazz Era

WINDSOR (CP) — With a funeral parade and service reminiscent of the hey-day of the New Orleans jazz era, Walter L. Perry was buried here.

Mr. Perry, 68, had for 35 years been a vital force in the Negro community of Windsor with his organization annually of the international-

al Emancipation Day ceremonies.

Mr. Perry, who died in hospital from post-operative complications after being admitted with hepatitis, was known to thousands of Negroes from southwestern Ontario and the United States as Mr. Emancipation for his success with the annual festival which marks

the freeing of slaves in the British Empire and the U.S.

The funeral procession from First Baptist Church to Grove Cemetery was led by majorettes and the IGA Marching Band of Harrow.

On the way to the graveside, the band played such slow hymns as "Nearer, My God To Thee" and after the casket was lowered in the true New Orleans tradition, the band struck up with "When the Saints Go Marching In" and W. C. Handy's famous "The Birth of the Blues."

Among those present at the service were External Affairs Minister Paul Martin, a Windsor resident, and Mayor John Wheelton.

Mr. Perry is survived by his wife, Helen; a stepson, Robert J. Parsons of Owosso, Mich., and a stepdaughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Wheeler of Detroit.



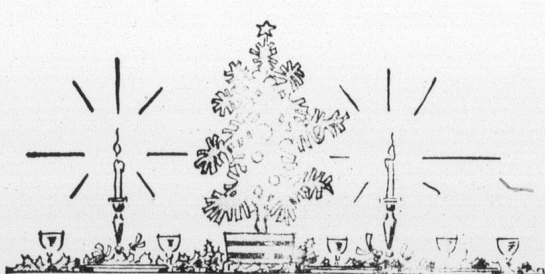
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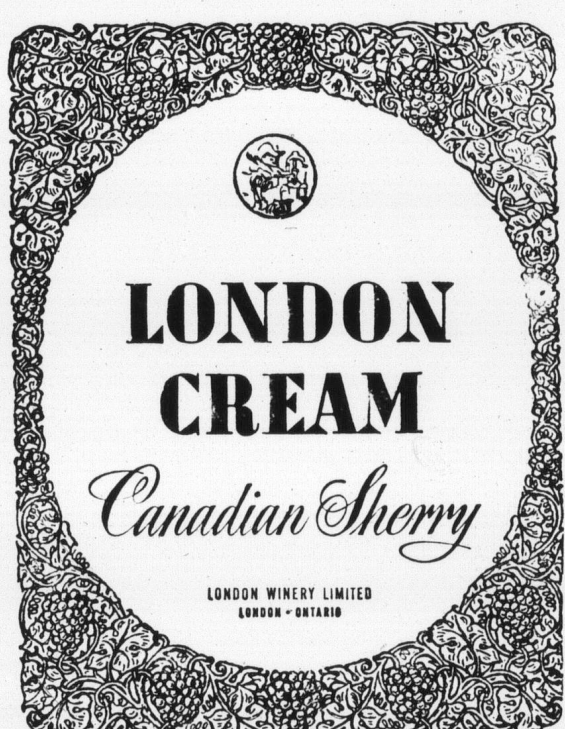


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VOL. 42

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