

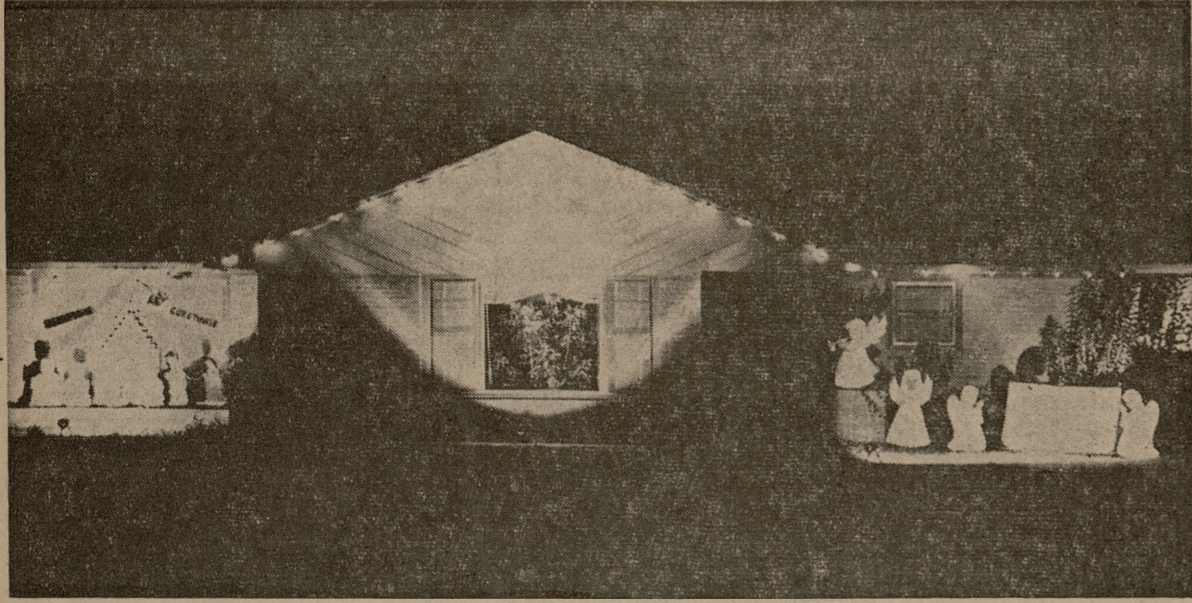
A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE

The Battalion

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COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1955

Price 5 Cents



HOLIDAY GREETINGS—Among the prettiest of the many outside displays for Christmas in our area is the home of Capt. and Mrs. Walter Heritage, 1209 Walton Drive in College Station. Mrs. Heritage did the work herself. The College Station Chamber of Commerce and Development Association is again offering prizes for the best outdoor home Christmas decorations this year. They will tour the residential areas of the city tomorrow night.

The Birth of Jesus Told in The Bible

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem;

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

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.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

St. Luke 2: 1-18
(St. James Version of The Holy Bible)

Quebec Village In New Church This Christmas

QUEBEC—(AP)—Villagers of Island of Orleans Parish will attend Midnight Mass this Christmas Eve in a modern stone church.

For more than 200 years parishioners in the village near Quebec have worshiped in a little wooden church built in 1717.

Time at last caught up with the St. Lawrence River Island. The church has become a museum. Horse-drawn sleighs, with bells tinkling, will still bring villagers to Mass this Christmas Eve, but they will share parking space beside late-model cars.

With the spread of English influence, sweeping changes have come over the "Jour de Noel" throughout Quebec province in the last few decades.

New Year's Day, until recent years, was traditionally reserved for visits to neighbors and relatives, the giving of presents and hospitality. Now it is still a time to visit but Christmas has become the day when Pere Noel (Father Christmas) makes his trip from the North Pole.

One tradition that has hung on, although considerably deflated, is the "reveillon." On Christmas morning after Midnight Mass, the family gathers around the Christmas tree—another innovation—for the exchange of gifts followed by a meal. This meal nowadays is inclined to be a modest affair of sandwiches, or a cold buffet and fruit cake or cookies.

The Christmas Day dinner is almost a duplicate of that enjoyed in English-speaking families—stuffed turkey, baked potatoes, vegetables and dessert, usually pie. There is little of the strictly French tradition in the meals.

Broken Die Cast Adds To Troubles

ROCK ISLAND, Ill.—(AP)—As if men weren't busy enough with the Christmas rush, Postmaster John J. McCarthy had more work this week explaining to Rock Islanders their mail isn't five years old.

Monday began with a flood of telephoned complaints that packages and cards mailed in Rock Island in December, 1950, were just being delivered. The callers said they noted the date in the postmarks.

McCarthy explained that the 1955 die used on machines to cancel mail was broken and that post office workers tried to chip at the 1956 die to make it look like 1955. They botched the job and the 6 turned out to look more like an 0 than it did a 5.

It's too late in the year to get a 1955 replacement die so Rock Island mail will look like that until Jan. 1.

Weather Today

PARTLY CLOUDY

The weather prediction for College Station and vicinity is partly cloudy and mild. It was foggy this morning and will be so tomorrow morning. Temperature at 8:30 a.m. was 59 degrees.

The Battalion Trains You For Anything

Based on ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Former Battalion news editor Jim Ashlock was mighty slow bringing in the story for the San Angelo Standard-Times, but he did get it.

Sent to Schleicher County, a 150-mile round trip, to interview a farmer, deadline approached and no Ashlock and no story.

When he finally rushed into the city room he was greeted with the howl, "Where have you been?"

"Helping butcher a hog," Ashlock replied. "Had to help him finish that before he would give me a story."

COSTLY YULE TREES

TORONTO—(AP)—The season's most expensive Christmas trees, probably, are 1,000 Scotch pines taken from Ontario to Venezuela, under refrigeration.

The six-foot trees have been ordered—at \$35 each—by Americans, Canadians and Europeans living in that area, many of them connected with oil companies.

Consolidated Exes Plan Party Dec. 25

Ex-students of A&M Consolidated High School will hold their annual Christmas get-together Christmas night, Dec. 25, at 8 in the high school activity room. A previous notice sent out gave the date as Dec. 24 which was incorrect.

Committee members are now busy planning the program and it is hoped that at least 200 persons will be present. Last year more than 75 attended the party.

Exes who plan to attend church that evening are urged to come after the services, said J. J. Skrivaneck Jr., CHS principal. All ex-students living in this area also are being urged to pass the word around to those who are coming home for the holidays.

Superintendent L. S. Richardson appointed Edward Linton, Student Council president; Holland Winder, '46; and Skrivaneck to make arrangements for the affair.

Fiery Crash Kills Two Aggies

Phone Dialing In City Will Switch Dec. 28

College Station, Bryan and surrounding areas served by the Southwestern States Telephone Company will go to the new seven-digit system at 10 p.m. December 28. Exchange numbers for College Station are VI (Victor) and for Bryan, TA (Taylor).

College Station's new phone building at North Gate will be cut into the main plant in Bryan right after 12 midnight. The operation will take only about 30 seconds to complete, after quite a long time to install. The new building in the city has entirely new equipment with inter-toll dialing.

This inter-toll dialing will enable anyone, to call long-distance numbers directly when the system is tied into the nationwide Inter-toll Dialing network in the future.

New phone books are being mailed and everyone should have theirs before the system goes into effect, according to company officials. The Christmas rush on the Post Office may hold up the books for a short time.

Daigle, Burlin Victims In Highway Collision

Holiday traffic has claimed the lives of two Texas A&M students. Norman Scott Daigle and Richard H. Burlin died in a fiery crash near Ellinger, about 12 miles east of La Grange on state highway 77 early Sunday morning.

Two others, Mr. and Mrs. Woodward G. Davis, died in the wreck which occurred in heavy fog.

Sheriff Jim Flournoy of Fayette County said the students' automobile collided head-on with an oilfield equipment truck driven by Davis, with both vehicles bursting immediately into flames. By the time the La Grange Fire Department put the fire out, all four bodies were burned beyond recognition. Identification was made by checking license plates on the vehicles and by a few personal effects which were scattered through the wreckage, Flournoy said.

The two students were driving to Houston after having attended a dance in Austin. Daigle was going to his home at 2205 Collier St., Houston, and Burlin intended to fly to his home in Tampa, Fla.

Funeral services were held yesterday morning in Houston for Daigle, 20, a junior history major. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis T. Daigle and two sisters, Marsha and Ann.

Funeral arrangements for Burlin, 20, junior history major are pending, until arrangements can be made for burial in Arlington National Cemetery at the side of his father, the late Col. C. W. Burlin. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Charles W. Burlin of Tampa, Fla., and two brothers, Lt. Col. Robert Burlin of Washington, D.C., and Lt. William Burlin of the U.S. Navy. The body will be taken to Houston before being shipped to Washington.

The two deaths brought to four the number of A&M students killed in wrecks involving automobiles this semester.

Funeral Today At 4 For 'Doc' Lipsecomb

Funeral services will be at 4 p.m. today for Samuel A. (Doc) Lipsecomb, 68, owner of Lipsecomb Pharmacy who was found dead in his bed early yesterday at his home.

The services will be held in the Chapel of Hillier Funeral Home with the Rev. Nolan Vance of the A&M Methodist Church officiating. Interment will be in the Bryan City Cemetery with the following serving as pallbearers: Marion Pugh, Walleman Price, C. C. Smith, Sid Loveless, A. E. Carver and Kenneth Mills.

Lipsecomb is survived by his widow, Mrs. Carolyn Lipsecomb, College Station; two sisters, Mrs. C. C. Young of Hamburg, Ark., and Mrs. Ulah Grant, Houston; and a niece, Kathryn Johnson of Houston.

He was born in Franklin, April 21, 1887, graduated from A&M College with the class of 1907 and later attended the Little Rock School of Pharmacy in Arkansas. Winner of a "T" in baseball, Lipsecomb had long been a sports enthusiast and annually presented the Lipsecomb trophy to an outstanding Aggie football player.

He was for a long time representative on the A&M Ex-Students Council and served as alumni representative of the school's Athletic Council for three years. One of the founders of the College State Bank he served for a while as its president and was a member of the board of directors.

Lipsecomb was formerly on the executive committee of the Texas State Pharmaceutical Association and before ill health caused his resignation he was active in the College Station Kiwanis Club.

A son, Sam Webb Lipsecomb who graduated from A&M in 1940 was a World War II casualty.

St. Nicholas

Our Santa Claus Lived in Turkey

DEMRE, Turkey—(AP)—Camel caravans occasionally wander through this sleepy south Turkish town. Citrus fruit grows around the calendar. Snow comes only to the high mountains that sit back from the sea.

There is nothing under the hot Mediterranean sun to hint why children and myth have put Santa Claus' home at the North Pole. Or why he travels by sleigh with a team of reindeer.

But it was here in Demre and formerly Myra that Santa Claus lived most of his life and died 16 centuries ago—a beloved bishop and later saint of the Christian church. A tomb, empty but supposedly his, still rests in a small and often rebuilt church that bears his name—the Church of St. Nicholas.

It is not easy to get to. You can go by jeep over a winding, bridgeless road lined in some parts by Greek-Roman ruins. Small boats also come to Demre from villages and cities along Turkey's southern coast.

It was by boat that St. Nicholas was supposed to have arrived early in the 4th Century from his native village of Patara, about 40 miles away. He died here Dec. 6, 342 A.D.

Scores of legends are the basis for today's belief in Santa Claus as a kindly, jolly character with a great love for children.

The best known concerns an impoverished nobleman and his three daughters in Patara when Nicholas was a well-to-do young man in the then thriving seaport.

At night, in secret, Nicholas hurled three bags of gold coins into the nobleman's run-down house to provide dowries for his daughters. The girls, of course, were then able to marry in style and live happily ever after. The legend presumably gave rise to Santa Claus' practice of giving secretly, at night and as a surprise.

As a bishop of Myra, Demre, he healed the sick, saved the sailors from the sea and provided grain for his townspeople when famine threatened.

Nicholas also had his troubles. Records in Turkey indicate the Romans imprisoned the future saint awhile during a vast purge throughout Asia Minor.

The Church of St. Nicholas has been rebuilt several times. The only remnants from Nicholas' time are now underground, surrounded by silt washed down from the mountains. It is no longer used.

In 1807 A.D. Italian merchants from Bari removed the relics of the saint from his neglected church and took them home. There they built a church to house them that still stands. Turkish historians say (See SANTA CLAUS, Page 6)

Minister Objects To Bing's Bubbling

MINNEAPOLIS—(AP)—A Lutheran minister told his congregation Sunday that he doesn't approve of the way Bing Crosby "bubbles 'Silent Night.'"

Moreover, said the Rev. Lasse J. Stohl, he gets no great lift out of Arthur Godfrey's singing "Joy to the World."

Rev. Stohl, in his sermon at Gethemane Lutheran Church in suburban Hopkins, criticized factors which he said "tend to obscure the real meaning of Christmas—the coming of the Holy Child."

System Accident Committee Meets

The problem of constructing a uniform system of accident reporting for the A&M College System constituted the main point of discussion at Monday's meeting of the System Accident Prevention Committee, with J. W. Hill, director of Workmen's Compensation, as chairman.

The Committee decided to extend further study to the problem, concentrating on a system that would cover both persons under Workmen's Compensation and not covered.

Other topics covered included a poster safety program and the bringing in of outside teams to the system.

Chairmen of the Accident Prevention Committees, or their representatives, make up the members of the System Committee. The next meeting will be held the week of May 7.

Professor's Son In Austin Shooting

Alvin L. Bennett Jr., son of Dr. Alvin L. Bennett, assistant professor of English at A&M, was arrested last week on a charge of attempted murder in the shooting of a 17-year-old girl, Francis Spenkel, at an Austin night club.

Miss Spenkel, shot in the mouth as she left the Flamingo Lounge with her escort Steve Hawley, was reported in satisfactory condition at Breckenridge Hospital.

Hawley told Austin city detectives who investigated the shooting that he and the wounded girl were preparing to leave the club after an evening of dancing when a man shoved open the front door and fired two shots, one of them striking the girl in the mouth.



FIRST CHRISTMAS—Little Ann Williamson, sitting in her mother's lap, will be enjoying her first Christmas this Sunday, although she won't quite know what is going on. Her parents are Bill and Jean Williamson, and they live at 205 Walton Drive in the city. He is a pre-medical major at A&M.