FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1940

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Of all the days we celebrate, Christmas is the one that inspires the most universal joy. Nations have their festive days, their carnivals and holidays, but once in the year, and just once, comes that happy day of world-wide observance. You cannot cut Christmas out of the calendar, nor out of the hearts of men.

Aside from the great religious significance that the day carries with it, Christmas emulates the spirit of cheer and friendliness. A day when the cares of business and the work-a-day world are forotten and the household chores become pleasing burdens. A day when the young folks take a keen interest in the joys of the young.

Yes, Christmas comes but once a year, but come it will, and its coming is eagerly looked forward to by both young and old.

May its religious predominence ever shine, and may its joy and cheerfulness ever linger.

We wish our readers a very Merry Christmas!

SEAL SALE NEARING HOME STRETCH

With the annual Christmas Seal Sale nearing the home stretch, Doctor Samuel Wolman, president of the Maryland Tuberculosis Association, called upon all Marylanders to purchase the Christmas Seals that they have received.

"Medical science can cure tuberculosis", Doctor Wolman said, "but it is necessary that we find those with the disease first. Through the purchase of Christmas Seals, every county in Maryland has at least one free clinic a month through which tuberculosis can be found.

"In order for these clinics to be continued," Doctor Wolman concluded, "it is necessary that everyone buy Christmas Seals. Tuberculosis is a communicable disease and by protecting one home, we protect all homes.

One of the most ingenious methods of using Seals was devised by a newsboy, Jesse Zielski, whose stand is on a busy corner in downtown Baltimore, Mr. Zielski placed a seal on every newspaper he sold.

"Mr. Zielski's action carries on a tradition," Phillip S. Morgan, vice-president of Maryland Tuberculosis Association said, as he explained that the first purchaser of a Christmas Seal in the United States was another newsboy whose sister had tuberculosis, and whose words were, "Gimme one, my sister's got it."

KEEP YOUR FIRES FRIENDLY AT CHRISTMAS TIME

There's nothing so cheerful as a blazing log in the fireplace at Christmas time, or a good warm fire in the furnace or stove. These are friendly fires that help us enjoy the friendliest of stasons. But when fire breaks out of bounds, its cheering warmth quickly changes to destructive heat, and tragedy stalks through the home.

At this time of the year, particularly, dwelling houses are apt to be more vulnerable to fires. Special precautions are therefore necessary to guard your family from the possibilities of injury and loss. One lighted candle may touch off the entire tree, aided by inflammable ornaments. You know what a roaring fire a Christmas tree makes. Use standard miniature electric lights.

The tree should be anchored securely so it cannot topple over, noninflammable ornaments should be used. Smokers also have an especial obligation to be careful during the holidays in rooms where trees and other decorations are located, as well as tissues and paper from unwrapped gifts.

The Livestork Judging Team of the University of Maryland left on Saturday, November 23, to compete in the Intercollegiate Judging Contest held in Chicago on November 30 in connection with the International Livestock Exposition. They did some practise judging en route, with the coaching of James B. Outhouse and Joseph M. Vial of the University, who accompanied the team.

ORIGIN OF CHRISTMAS

The Christmas spirit walks abroad, mingling with the throng. The keen interest that we all feel, makes it appropriate at this time to explain the origin of Christmas. The December Grade Teacher magazine, gives an interesting history of the origin of the Christmas celebration.

Augustus Ceasar, Emperor of Rome, decreed that every subject in his dominion should be enrolled, at the place of birth of the head of the family for the purpose of taxation. In pursuance of this decree, a carpenter named Joseph, with his wife, Mary, who lived at Nazareth in province of Galilee, journeyed to his birthplace at Bethlthem, in Judea, the city of David, the greatest of Jewish kings. Joseph and Mary, although descendants of the royal family of David, were poor and humble. The village of Bethlehem was crowded. The Inn had more guests than it could accomodate, so the couple from Nazareth found shelter in a stable. This was doubtless one of the caves hollowed out of the soft limestone rock which is common in that vicinity, since such caves are still used in Palestine as stables for horses and camels.

Some months before, an angel had announced to Mary that she was to be the mother of Jesus. The time had arrived for the prophecy to come true and there, in the city of David, a son was born. Mary wrapped him in swaddling clothes--linen bands such as eastern mothers still wind round the body of a little baby--and laid him in a manger.

That night, on the slope of a hill near Bethelhem, a group of shepherds were watching their flocks: "And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around 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 Savior, 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 heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good wil toward men."

Certian wise men, called Magi, saw a star in the east and followed it across the desert, over plains and hills. The wise men and the shepherds found the baby Jesus in the manger. The shepherds sang songs of praise and glory. The wise men opened their treasurers, gave Him rich presents, frangincense, gold, and myrrh. The star, the songs, and the gifts are perpetuated in our celebration of Christmas Day.

Although we celebrate Christmas on December 25th in honor of the birth of the Christ Child, there is no evidence that this was actually His birthday since--on account of certain changes in the calendar and for other reasons--no one knows exactly when He was born.

Why, then do we celebrate Christmas at this time?

Because the Winter solstice, which occurs about December 22nd, is one of the great turning points of the year. The days, which have been steadily growing shorter since midsummer, now begins to lengthen again. Hence this season had been celebrated for thousands of years before the Christian era. Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS CACHET MAILED FROM BETHLEHEM

The annual souvenir cachet envelope, originated three years ago by Marjorie Ann Chambers, will be issued from Bethlehem, Maryland, again this year on Christmas morning.

Miss Chambers is now a freshman at Mary Washington College. She is majoring in commercial teaching, with journalism and art as minor subjects. She will carry on the cachet during the Christmas holidays as she has done in the past.

The envelope will be printed in two colors and will contain a beautiful little folder telling a new story of Christmas time.

Joseph M. Vial, specialist in livestock for the University of Maryland Extension Service, is acting as associate judge of Percheron horses at the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago this year.

CHRISTMAS SEALS ARE LIFE-SAVERS

The Maryland Tuberculosis Association has launched its thirty-fourth annual Christmas seal sale and from now until the holidays, school children, club women and social workers will be selling, and many others will be buying, the colorful little stickers that raise funds to combat tuberculosis.

The approximately $80,000 realized annually in Maryland through the seal sale makes possible the maintenance of a modern program of tuberculosis control, which includes clinics, x-ray treatments, tuberculin testing, medical research, health education, a special Negro program and the maitnenance of a summer camp called the Miracle House.

How much effect the association's work, which is largely educational and thus preventive rather than curative, has had on the decrease in tuberculosis deaths is a matter of conjecture, but Maryland's tuberculosis fatalities have fallen to a fraction of the rate of bygone years. In 1904, for instance, 234 of every 100,000 Marylanders died of the white plague. Last year but 72.1 of every 100,000 died from this cause.

Though this progress is encouraging, Maryland's tuberculosis record does not compare favorably with those of other States, its 72.1 ranking third highest in the country. Arizona, oddly, leads the nation with 162.6. With its clear, dry air and reputation as a health center, this State might be expected to have a much lower death rate. But because it is a Mecca for "lungers", authorities explain, Arizona's death rate is high. A high percentage of the population is comprised of transient tuberculars, many of them in late stages of the disease.

In the list of States, Tennessee ranks second with a 78.5 death rate, due, the authorities say, to great concentrations of population and to a large Negro population. The District of Columbia, practically entirely a metropolitan population, has 87.4 tuberculosis deaths per 100,000 population.

Baltimore, it is pointed out, is largely responsible for Maryland's high death rate. Over half of the State's population is concentrated in the metropolitan area, where there is much poor housing and where living conditions are not uniformly good. In addition, there is a large Negro population, uninformed of disease-prevention measures, thruout Maryland, and in many rural sections of the State submarginal living conditions obtain.

It is to alleviate these conditions that the association program, financed by the Christmas seal seal, is maintained. Between 3,000 and 4,000 patients receive examinations and x-ray treatments ecah year in the clinics operated by the association in Baltimore city, and the monthly clinics in the counties give similar service to about 6,000 patients annually. Clinic patients are received at the instance of a reputable physician or nurse and a report on their physical condition is forwarded to the State Department of Health. If tuberculosis has developed, a public health nurse is dispatched to the home and work environs of the patient to check on the possibility of contagion and spread of the disease.

Another element of the association program is the tuberculin test administered annually to county school children in cooperation with the particular boards of education. Because the discovery of tuberculosis in its early stages expedites its early cure, many States have laws requiring clinics which sometimes give unlooked for results.

The Maryland association's educational program furnishes literature, lectures, motion pictures and open-forum meetings on recent developments in the scientific control and cure of tuberculosis to physicians, nurses, schoolteachers and civic leaders. Many requests for this service come from Negro groups.

Since 1919 the Miracle House, maintained by the association at Claiborne for girls from homes infected by the disease, has protected over 2,100 of them. Every year 100 girls, between the ages of 15 and 25 years of age, are taken to the camp on the Chesapeake, which is regarded as a tuberculosis preventorium. Along with other program compenents, it is financed by the Christmas seal sale. —Harry Huller

REAL ESTATE SALES

Wheeler & Grier, Realtors, have sold for Mrs. Nora A. Kimble, her dwelling located at corner of Broad and Seventh streets, Oxford, Pa., to John McIver. Mr. McIver will make several improvements to the property and will take possession on January 1.

The value of corn silage in a ration for fattening calves and the feeding value of barley as compared with corn are being tested with 40 Angus steers in a trial by the Experiment Station of the University of Maryland.

For the purpose of the test, the steers are divided into four lots. One lot receives a check ration of corn, soybean oil meal, a moderate amount of hay and a moderate amount of silage. A second lot receives the same amount of corn, soybean oil meals, and nearly all of the roughage in the form of silage, and with a minimum amount of hay. The third lot receives corn, soybean oil meal and no silage. The fourth lot receives the same ration as the check lot, except that barley is substituted for corn.

A man is apt to be suspicious if his wife isn't jealous of him.

A Christmas Carol

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By Henry W. Longfellow

I hear along our street
Pass the minstrel throngs;
Hark! They play so sweet,
On their Hautboys, Christmas songs!
Let us by the fire
Ever higher
Sing them till the night expire!

In December ring
Every day the chimes;
Loud the gleemen sing
In the streets their merry rhymes.
Let us by the fire
Ever higher
Sing them till the night expire!

Shepherds at the grange,
Where the Babe was born,
Sang with many a change
Christmas carols until morn.
Let us by the fire
Ever higher
Sing them till the night expire!

These good people sang
Songs devout and sweet;
While the rafters rang,
There they stood with freezing feet.
Let us by the fire
Ever higher
Sing them till the night expire!

Nuns in frigid cells
At this holy tide,
For want of something else,
Christmas songs at times have tried.
Let us by the fire
Ever higher
Sing them till the night expire!

Who by the fireside stands,
Stamps his feet and sings;
But he who blows his hands
Not so gay a carol brings.
Let us by the fire
Ever higher
Sing them till the night expire!

Bethlehem Unchanged In Twenty Centuries

Bethlehem, "royal David's city," is still a city set on a hill. It is about six miles from Jerusalem.

It is a city of flat-roof homes which look cozy enough, and its narrow streets have an air of friendliness.

More Christians live in Bethlehem than in any other town in Palestine. On its hillsides you may still see shepherds with their flocks, while blinking overhead are the everlasting stars.

MERELY A STARTER

With young folks the mistletoe
Plays havoc. Can you doubt it?
For kissing, started by its aid,
Soon gets along without it.

BAYBERRY CANDLES *For Christmas*

This young lady is not going to use her sprig of berries for decoration. She is doing what hundreds of housewives around the East coastline are doing during the Christmas season—preparing to make bayberry candles. The berries are boiled for their wax, which is purified and made into the candles that give off the distinctive aroma when burned.

Here you see a phase in the mass production of bayberry candles for the Yule season. Great bunches of wicks are dipped simultaneously until they are of desired thickness.

A woman wouldn't care to be an invalid if she couldn't talk of her ailments.

U. S. silver production centers about Idaho, largest producer in the U. S.—where $20 worth is mined every minute.

The U. S. government collects grazing fees for cattle, horses, sheep, goats in national forest. . . $3.00 every minute.

Officials don't really expect war. Nobody expecting bombers could be dumb enough to build plane factories near the Coast.

THE FIVE LEADING FIRE HAZARDS

According to the National Board of Fire Underwriters, if people would inform themselves about the five leading hazards, which are responsible for the majority of our fires, the number of fires in this country could be reduced by a tremendous percentage.

First and foremost of the hazards is carelessness with matches and smoking materials.

Heating plants are another prolific source of fires--and they constitute a hazard which is at its worst this time of year. Chimneys and flues should be checked and cleaned each year. Flue linings of fire clay are essential for maxium safety. Sagging or rusted pipes should be repaired, and smokepipes should be a safe distance from combustibles. Over-heating of stoves and furnaces is always a danger.

Misuse of electricity is still another cause of fire. Use standard fuses of the correct size only, and never use a coin as a substitute. Disconnect all heat-producing appliances when leaving home.

Spontaneous ignition is one more of fire's many allies. It isn't as mysterious as it sounds. Oily and paint-stained rags or mops are among the worst offenders, and should always be kept in tightly closed metal containers.

A cause of many deaths and serious injuries is home cleaning with benzine, naptha, gasoline and similar explosive liquids. Send your cleaning out--that's both the cheapest and safest way in the long run.

Here are rules that will prevent most fires. Preserve them and observe them--and the chances will be long against fires paying a disastrous visit to your home.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

"Is the Universe, Including Man, Evolved by Atomic Force?" will be the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, December 22.

The Golden Text will be from Isaiah 45:18, "Thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth, and made it. I am the Lord; there is none else."

Among the citations comprising the Lesson-Sermon will be the following from the Bible, Isaiah 149:2: "Let Isreal rejoice in him that made him; let the children of Zion be joyful in their King".

The Lesson-Sermon also will include passages from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy, among which is the following, page 484, "The physical universe erpresses the conscious and unconscious thoughts of mortals. Physical force and mortal mind are one."

The annual exhibit of the Maryland State Horticultural Society at the Lord Baltimore Hotel on January 15 and 16 should not be confused with the annual meetings which will be held in Hagerstown on January 8 and 9.