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Greetings! Just a friendly note to say
We wish you the merriest Christmas Day!
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Closed Christmas Day To Give Our Employees
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Lesser Events Took Place On Christmas Day

Christmas is, above all else, the day on which we recognize the Nativity of Christ. It has been so since the fourth century, when the Western Church officially adopted December 25th as the date of the birth of the Saviour.

Since that time, this greatest of all events has completely overshadowed every historical event occurring on the same day. Ask anyone to tell you of something else in history that happened on December 25th other than the birth of Christ, and chances are they will give you a negative answer.

A few will remember that it was on this same date that George Washington crossed the Delaware. Only a true student of history will tell you that the date marks the birthday of Isaac Newton, Clara Barton and Frances Blake, among others.

Actually, the fact that Washington crossed the Delaware on Christmas is all the average American should be expected to remember. But, it's interesting to note some of the other events that happened on the same day:

In 1857, the Battle of Oketcho-bee.

In 1941, Japanese captured Hong Kong.

In 1492, wreck of the Santa Maria, at Haiti.

In 1928, Hirohito became Emperor of Japan.

It was also on Christmas day, in 1947, that China's constitution was adopted and went into effect, making the date China's National Renaissance Day. And, Christmas is also the birthday of the town of Kelso, Washington, settled on Christmas day, 1847, by Peter W. Crawford.



Just like most everyone else, Saint Nick prospered after he came to America.

In Europe, before he reached these shores, Saint Nick was a tall, angular man who rode a bony gray mare. He hadn't been in America long, however, before he had a new name, a new face, figure and a new and better mode of transportation.

The early English settlers in this country started Santa's "new look" process. They adopted the legendary figure from the Dutch, but couldn't pronounce "Saint Nicklaus." The best they could do was "Santa Kalout," which was corrupted to "Santa Claus."

In 1809, Washington Irving in his "Knickerbocker's History of New York," changed Santa's physical appearance by describing him as a jolly fellow with a broad-brimmed hat and huge britches. He also taught St. Nick to smoke a pipe, and traded his hay burner for a wagon.

Clement Moore in his famous poem, "The Visit From Saint Nicholas," went even further. He gave Saint Nick a sleigh, twinkling eyes, cheeks like roses, nose like a cherry and a round little belly.

Future writers may try to trade Prancer and Dancer off for a jet ship and trim down Santa's waist line. It will be a tough job, for, though he isn't streamlined, Santa pleases the young folks and that's mighty important.

'NIGHT BEFORE XMAS
Dr. Clement Clarke Moore was ashamed of his famous poem, "Night Before Christmas" and would not acknowledge that he wrote it for more than 20 years.

IF YOU DON'T READ
THE CHRONICLE
YOU DON'T GET THE NEWS
PHONE 74

The Christmas Bells

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

And though how, as the day had come

The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song
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 doth He sleep

The wrong shall fail
The right prevail
With peace on earth, good will to men.

—Longfellow

Small Towns First to Light Outdoor Trees

It was a small town that first thought of lighting an outdoor community Christmas tree.

Four communities are believed to have thought of the idea about the same time—as early as 1913. Two of them, McDonald and Germantown, were in Pennsylvania. Salem, Ore., decorated a large Sitka spruce. Riverside, Calif., illuminated a large evergreen, an Aracuria.

The first national Christmas tree was in 1924 and was sponsored by the American Forestry association. The event is now televised every year for all parts of the country to see.

The most spectacular outdoor displays in the United States are at the White House and Rockefeller Center in New York. The New York display is possibly the most elaborate in the world.

But it was the small towns that first thought of the idea. Today, nearly every community in the land has some kind of Christmas decorations. Many communities string colored lights across the street and decorate light posts with evergreens. Many suspend bells and stars at street intersections and have dazzling community trees.



**Yule Seal Idea
Was From Denmark**

This year millions of Americans have received a letter from their local chapter of the National Tuberculosis association containing Christmas seals, the seasonal reminder of the never-ending fight to stamp out the disease.

Holiday Spirit Dies Too Quickly

With all the excitement and bustle that precedes Christmas, it often happens that the day after Christmas is an anti-climax. It shouldn't be, although many new toys will already be broken, a few are certain to be disappointed because they didn't get what they really wanted from Santa—and, of course, there are bills that must be paid.

Yet, it isn't quite right to put Christmas so far behind us when December 26th arrives. There are many things that can and should be done to keep the Christmas spirit alive. This is the time for everyone in the family to write thank-you notes. Writing at once to acknowledge a gift serves two purposes. The giver appreciates such prompt thoughtfulness and it's always much easier to write a thank-you note promptly than to keep putting it off.

The day after Christmas is also a good time to start taking notes that will help make the next celebration of the holiday a greater event. And, before discarding those Christmas cards and letters, be sure that your address book is up to date.

Take a look around you at some of the gifts your friends received—and you may get some idea that will help you do a better shopping job for upcoming birthdays, anniversaries, and for the next Christmas, which on December 26th, is less than a year away.

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the joy of Christmas
surround you and yours!

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May this
Christmas be one of
resounding joy and good
cheer for you and all those dear to you.

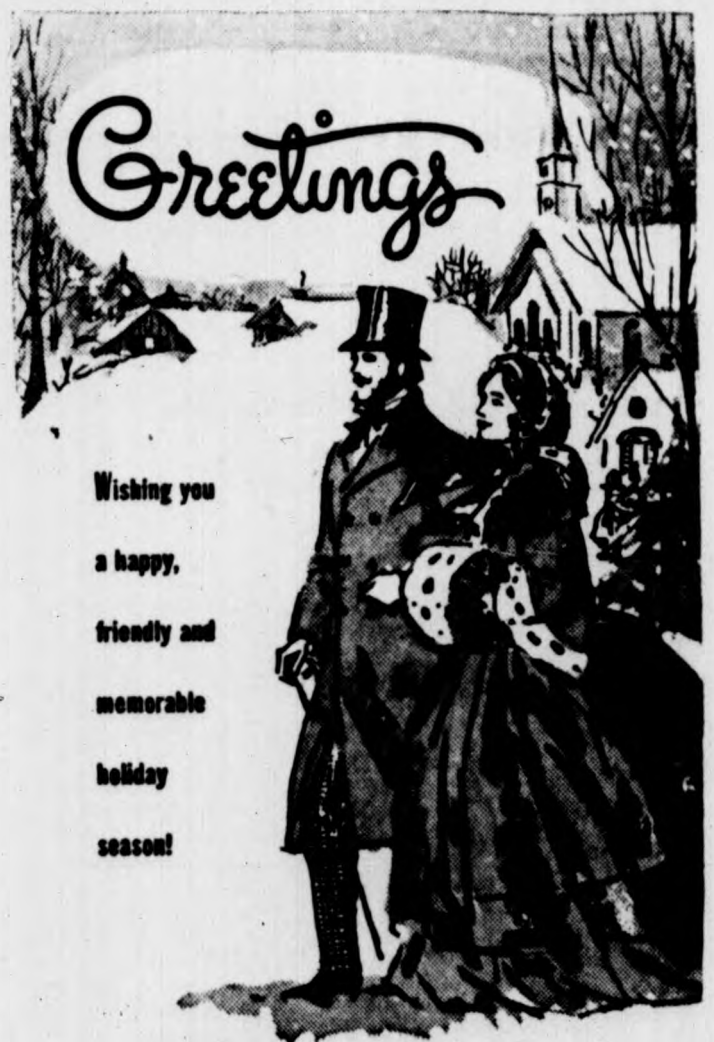
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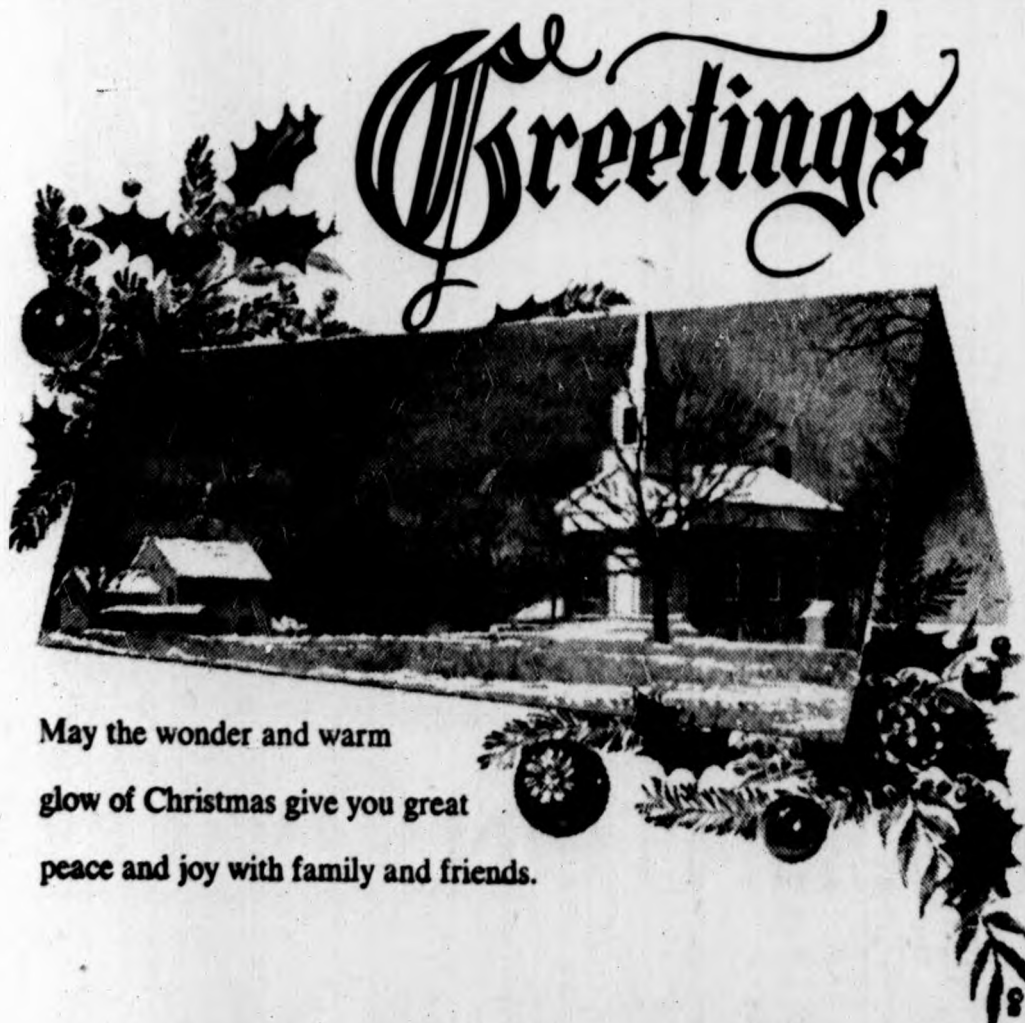
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