





**HARDWARE**  
**You**  
**er Co.**  
**CEMENT**  
 at the  
 Mercantile  
 at you want  
 you will find  
 your every wish

Odd—but TRUE

SANTA CLAUS WAS NOT ORIGINALLY A PART OF THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL. THE NAME 'SANTA CLAUS' IS DERIVED FROM SAINT NICHOLAS, BISHOP OF MYRA, WHO WAS KNOWN AS THE PATRON OF THE CHILDREN. SAINT NICHOLAS DAY WAS CELEBRATED ON DECEMBER SIXTH AS A CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL WITH DISTRIBUTION OF GIFTS.

A PERSON REPRESENTING SAINT NICHOLAS, RIDING A GRAY HORSE WOULD GO FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE LEAVING PRESENTS FOR THE GOOD CHILDREN. THE BAD CHILDREN WERE GIVEN A ROD TO BE USED BY THE PARENTS.

SAINT NICHOLAS DAY WAS LATER MERGED WITH CHRISTMAS TO MAKE THAT EVENT A POPULAR FESTIVAL. WHEN THE DUTCH BROUGHT SANTA CLAUS TO AMERICA HIS HORSE WAS REPLACED BY REINDEER.



THE BURNING OF THE YULE LOG COMES TO US FROM THE ANCIENT SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES. ITS FLAME WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BURNED OUT OLD WRONGS AND MISDEEDS.



AND - ODD - BUT TRUE - WE WISH YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas in California A Century Ago

WHEN one thinks of the traditions of Christmas celebration in New England, the Middle states, and even farther West, in the early part of the Nineteenth century, it is to vision snow-covered ground, sleigh rides, and the jingle of sleigh bells, with Christmas trees and Santa Claus, much as today in those sections.

Those were great times and days, and their annals live in the works of famous literati of the East coast when our Republic was comparatively young.

But at the same time a mighty civilization was being built on the West coast, though how different was the Christmas observed in the sparsely settled and undeveloped land that is now California! And how few to leave record!

However, Albert Robinson, a clerk who left Boston for California in July, 1828, and after 110 days reached Valparaiso, and Monterey on February 15, 1829, has left in his "Life in California," published in the late forties, description of a Christmas celebration held at the mission in San Diego that shows the contrast between such events on the east and west coasts at that time.

INSECTS DAMAGE CROPS HEAVILY DURING YEAR

Injurious insects have been of greater importance in New Mexico during the past year than in any previous season says G. R. Quesenberry of the New Mexico Agricultural College.

Grasshoppers appear to have been the chief offenders and were reported in every county in New Mexico for the first time during the present year.

Other insects, such as ants, false chinch bugs, cotton boll worms, cotton leaf worms, false wire worms, army worms and granary weevils have all done considerable damage and help has been given farmers by the extension service in their control.

However, the losses from grasshoppers far exceeds that of all other insects.

With crops of low market value and unform distribution of this insect, control measures proved one of the biggest and most troublesome problems confronting county agents of the entire state.

Much of this damage was greater than in previous years and much worse than would have been the case had farmers attempted to destroy the harboring places for grasshopper eggs during the winter.

At the present time, Mr. Quesenberry states that as a result of the organizations developed over most of the agricultural area of the state for controlling this pest, county agents are pushing a program of destroying the eggs left in the soil.

The trials during the past year have proved that the bran mash, where sodium arsenate is used according to the formula recommended by the extension service is the most effective poison for the expense involved. The hopperdozer appears to be entirely

THE SUPER-FIXER

Why is Hoover conceded to be the best engineer in the world? Answer: He has damned, drained and ditched the United States, all in two years.—"Tack" in Arapaho Daily News.

Season's Greetings

If wishes were deeds the year 1932 would be marked down in history as one of your Happiest and Most Prosperous.

We appreciate the opportunity of serving this section during the years past with an indispensable service and are anxious to see the Pecos Valley grow, we want to grow with it, we want your co-operation, we want to co-operate in the upbuilding of this area.

We are not wasting any time bemoaning the fates of the past, instead of directing our energies toward a constructive course that will bring a greater service and more happiness to our friends.

Again we wish you a Merry Christmas

THE PECOS VALLEY GAS CO.

PRELIMINARIES START NEW METHOD FOR PLUGGING OLD WELLS

W. M. Ervin, artesian well supervisor with Russell Dallas of the state engineer's department, has been in this section for a few days completing preliminaries connected with a program for plugging the abandoned artesian wells with a new process, oil. The proposed method of plugging the wells, is yet an engineers' experiment, but promises to revolutionize the work of water conservation and offers an inexpensive way of shutting off a large number of wells.

Well plugging operations have been hindered due to the muddy sands and inclement weather. The mud in water and machinery has been placed over an abandoned well near Dexter, Tex. which will be finished as soon as the weather permits. Mr. Ervin plans to give his attention to the Brown wells southeast of the genuine Phillips well near Dexter, Tex. as soon as the Dexter well is finished and will use mud and cement in shutting off the flow of these wells, rather than oil.

The process of using a low gravity oil will solve some of the difficulties connected with Mr. Ervin's work, as well as provide a cheaper means of stopping the artesian flow if an oil of the proper viscosity can be found that will congeal at the temperature of the artesian water, just now this is the chief problem, but a more feasible solution may be worked out with the establishment of a laboratory here. Artesian water may finally dissolve both cement and mud, but there is no chemical in water that will attack the oil, and for this reason the proper grade of oil will be superior to either mud or cement.

HEALTH COLUMN

Conducted by Dr. J. R. Earp, Director, New Mexico Bureau of Public Health.

**CONTROL OF CANCER**

The writer of this column has just received notification that he has been appointed state chairman of the American Society for the Control of Cancer. The letter came from Dr. C. C. Little, the former president of Michigan University who is now the director of the American Society for the Control of Cancer.

While cancer is not a contagious disease, it is a disease of interest to the public health bureau because (1) of its great importance as a cause of death and (2) because the control of cancer depends upon its early recognition and is therefore primarily a problem of public health education.

We have accepted the appointment and are ready to act as intermediary between all New Mexicans who are interested in fighting cancer and the national society organized on May 22, 1913, "to disseminate knowledge concerning the symptoms, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of cancer, to investigate the conditions under which cancer is found and to compile statistics in regard thereto."

One of the studies undertaken has shown that on the average people afflicted with cancer wait almost exactly twelve months before they consult a doctor about it. During this long interval many cases progress to an incurable stage. The public must learn to recognize the early sign of cancer and to seek immediate aid.

Contributions for the support of this voluntary society and all inquiries may be addressed to the director, Bureau of Public Health, P. O. Box 711, Santa Fe.

CRUDE PRODUCTION IS EXPECTED TO BE REDUCED AT ONCE

Crude oil production in the nation is expected to be materially reduced at once by major oil companies to bring operations in line with consumption to prevent the industry from demoralization.

This was the expression of various leaders following the conclusion of a two-day meeting of directors of the American Oil Institute at St. Louis Friday.

Making it clear no general agreement was reached, nor sought, since such an agreement would be in violation of the anti-trust laws, leaders said they thought the most serious problem the industry ever faced would be solved by companies individually, shutting down Sundays in the flush fields, principally Texas.

Various directors said it will be necessary to cut production from about 1,400,000 to 1,700,000 barrels a week to prevent a further price cut of about 40 cents a barrel in the mid-continent area. The price there now is about 85 cents.

Four leading companies, before the meeting ended, announced they individually were going to shut down Sundays. They are the Humble Oil and Refining Co., with about 100,000 barrels production a day and one of the largest in Texas; the Sun Oil Co., the Ohio Oil Co., and Sinclair Consolidated Oil Corporation. Others are expected to follow suit.

Leaders explained the curtailment would apply chiefly in Texas, as production in Oklahoma, Kansas, California and other states.

Fireworks Were Set Off, and All Was Rejoicing.

At an early hour illuminations commenced, fireworks were set off, and all was rejoicing. The church bells rang merrily, and long before



Fireworks Were Set Off, and All Was Rejoicing.

the time of mass the pathways leading to the presidio were enlivened by crowds hurrying to devotion. I accompanied Don Jose Antonio, who procured for me a stand where I could see distinctly everything that took place. The mass commenced, Padre Vincente de Oliva (died 1845) officiated, and at the conclusion of the mysterious "sacrificio" he produced a small image representing the Infant Savior, which he held in his hands for all who chose to approach and kiss.

Christmas Suggestion—Peace and Contentment

WHEN trials pressed in upon the household of a certain brave woman she used to gather her family about her and say gaily, "Now I will make some graham gems, and open some marmalade, and we will take a little comfort." And comfort was theirs for the taking, and with comfort, no doubt, came courage and strength and some measure of wisdom for the trials when they had to be faced again.

Most of us spend too much time in taking pains and too little in taking comfort. Martin Luther once advised Philip Melancthon to give up managing the universe and let the Almighty God do it. An old colored mammy, asked how she could be so cheerful when she had no easy time of it, replied, "Lor, chile, I wars the world like a loose garment!"

And so it is suggested for a Merry Christmas this year that Christ's teaching of peace in the world was not a teaching for principalities and powers, but for individual men and women—each of us, personally. "My peace I give unto you," was his personal pledge to us.

Of course we cannot put aside the demands of life upon us nor evade its issues, but we can take some time out of life for the deliberate cultivation of a peace and contentment that will increase our efficiency, enrich our beings, and make the whole of living more tolerable.—Farmer's Wife.



Call Them Tonight

It's a thrill to chat with out-of-town friends by telephone. It's next best to actually seeing them. Typical station-to-station night rates:

from Hagerman to—  
 Plainview, Tex. ....50  
 Albuquerque, N. M. ....75

NIGHT RATES—8:30 p. m. to 4:30 a. m.  
 Calls by number are quicker.

Just Call Long Distance  
 "Number Please"  
**TELEPHONE**

For Your Accomodation

WE HAVE ADDED THE FOLLOWING OILS TO OUR REGULAR STOCK:

|               |     |      |
|---------------|-----|------|
| Floor Oil     | qt. | gal. |
|               | 25c | 75c  |
| Harness Oil   | 25c | 75c  |
| Separator Oil | 25c | 75c  |

**Sunshine Oil Station**

Have you tried our meat loafs yet?

20c PER LB.  
**Teed's Confectionery**  
 Hagerman, N. M.

Putting Overhead Underfoot

Business came to look, during those years of tremendous growth, to constantly increasing volume, to a growth that kept pyramiding. Markets seemed endless, and increasing volume made profits that were pleasing.

The average business man took the "depression" as something to be soon over, gave up the idea of making profit or even expenses for a short time, but held to his idea of volume.

Until it seemed assured that volume was to stay down for an extended period, he did not fundamentally adjust his business; he did not expect profits.

But the business vacation could not be carried indefinitely, so business began to find levels upon which it could operate with greater efficiency, less volume, and get a profit, perhaps small, but a profit.

A profit, dependably safe, insures health of a business, but continuing loss, no matter how small, insures the breaking up of a business. For profit is the blood stream, the life, of business.

Regional Clearing House No. 3 of the New Mexico Bankers Association

BEING COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING BANKS:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| FIRST NATIONAL BANK<br>Roswell, New Mexico     | FIRST NATIONAL BANK<br>Hagerman, New Mexico    |
| CARLSBAD NATIONAL BANK<br>Carlsbad, New Mexico | LEA COUNTY STATE BANK<br>Lovington, New Mexico |
| FIRST NATIONAL BANK<br>Carrizozo, New Mexico   | BANK OF COMMERCE<br>Roswell, New Mexico        |
| FIRST NATIONAL BANK<br>Artesia, New Mexico     |  |

Yule Candle and Holly

**Foretell Good and Evil**

THERE are many odd superstitions connected with Christmas candles and holly. One is that if a girl puts three leaves under her pillow, giving each the name of a possible husband, the one that has turned in the morning will reveal her marriage destiny. The Christmas candle is still lighted in some of the old Yorkshire farm houses, and is carried with great ceremony all around the house and into every room. The bearer must be most careful to shield the flame as each door is opened, for it would be the worst of luck should the candle happen to "waff out" in a draught. Especially must the Yule candle be held over the churn. This is done in order to evict that malicious little sprite, Hob-o-the-Churn, who hides therein and spoils the butter.

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS

The adjourned meeting of the Hagerman Irrigation Company will be held in the company's office on Tuesday, January 19, 1932 at 2:00 p. m. Your presence is requested.

W. A. LOSEY,  
 Sec.-Treas.

TREE DECORATIONS

THE old fashion of decorating Christmas trees with strings of popcorn appeals to the children of ten, more than the glass balls and trinkets commonly used.

Children enjoy helping pop the corn and stringing it. Cranberries at equal distances along the strings of popcorn are attractive. Apples hanging from the tree shine brightly if they have been washed and polished with a dry cloth or a little olive oil. Tin foil cut into thin strips hanging from the tree will sparkle in any light.

If candles are used, be exceedingly careful of fire. Evergreen trees blaze up instantly and furiously if they catch fire, which they do very easily.

**Why Children Are Good**

Joke makers would have us think that the children are very good just now so that they may get more and more presents. A keener observer would note that they are good because they are busy planning and making the little gifts they will give to others.—Collier's Weekly.

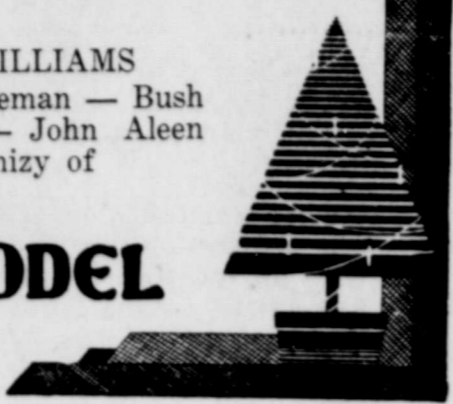
SUBSCRIBE TO THE MESSENGER

SUBSCRIBE TO THE MESSENGER

**To All Our Hagerman--  
Dexter and Lake Arthur  
Friends**

We sincerely wish you every  
Joy and Happiness that comes  
with Christmas

ED WILLIAMS  
Otis Brenneman — Bush  
Atkinson — John Aleen  
Phinizy of



**THE MODEL**

**LOCALS**

Mrs. C. W. Cole and Miss Grace Cole were Roswell shoppers on Monday.

Mesdames Ben Jack West and Jim McKinstry were in Roswell shopping Thursday afternoon.

Miss Uel Lee Carter, who has been in Silver City attending school, is home for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Cassie Mason were Santa Claus shoppers in Roswell on Thursday afternoon.

Mmes. R. L. Collins and H. L. McKinstry motored to Carlsbad Sunday afternoon, returning the same evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wimberly are here from State College for Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wimberly and friends.

Roy Lochhead, Jr., is here to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lochhead and Jim Lochhead.

Woodstock Typewriters for sale at The Messenger.

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Clark, Jim Bob and Jim Morgan, have recently moved to their home, from the Morgan place. Mr. Morgan has been quite ill, but is a little better at this time.

Mr. and Mrs. Vinton Curry of Trinidad, Colorado, are here to visit over the holidays with the C. W. Curry and Mrs. Flora West families and to greet the Wests' new first grand baby.

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. McKinstry, who recently negotiated the purchase of the Jim Morgan farm, moved into their new home last week. Good luck and prosperous years ahead to these energetic and ambitious young people.

Live Christmas trees in the C. G. Mason and E. S. Bowen yards gaily decorated with multi-colored electric lights, are beautiful symbols of the spirit of Christmas. Another tree, erected by the town on Main street, is also gorgeously lighted. The "juice" is being donated by the Southwestern Public Service Co.

**TYPEWRITERS**  
New Woodstocks, Coronas, and Remingtons, Rebuilt in all makes at The Messenger.

**CHRISTMAS PRAYER**

IT IS with profound gratitude in our hearts we behold this, another Christmas day. Gratitude not for riches, fame or power attained, but the glorious sun by day that warms our hearts toward all humanity. For the heavenly canopy of night, studded with matchless gems, which brings peace and rest to tired and weary souls—for the flowers and birds—for little children, and little children yet unborn, for the spirit of "Peace on earth, good will toward men"—for the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords—our Christ. Amen.

**STATE DELEGATION FOR THE OIL TARIFF**

New Mexico's two Senators, Sam Bratton and B. M. Cutting and Congressman Dennis Chaves have lined up solidly for a tariff on oil in the national congress. Governor Seligman announced last week.

Messenger Want Ads Get Results

**J.C. PENNEY CO.**  
Quality Merchandise at a Saving  
Roswell, N. M.

**Don't fail to take  
advantage of our  
13th month event  
Dec. 26 to Jan. 1**

**JOB PRINTING AT THE MESSENGER**  
SEE OUR ENGRAVING SAMPLES—Messenger

**SCOUT NEWS**

To B. W. Knoll, Harold Dye and others who are working with the boys of Hagerman, thru the Boy Scout program this season of good will and happiness has a particular significance.

Scout leadership is an enterprise approved and praised by many, but practiced only by a few unselfish men of vision and character. Their position marks them as peculiarly useful citizens, who have accepted large responsibilities for the upbuilding of the community and the nation.

To you who choose thus to serve, we desire to express on behalf of the local council and whole community our deep gratitude for the service you have rendered and our wish that the coming year and years to follow may bring you the happiness which comes to him who serves God and his fellow man.

**BANKERS ASSOCIATION  
PAYS \$500 REWARD TO  
CAPTURERS OF THIEVES**

Announcement was made Sunday of the payment by the New Mexico Bankers association of the \$500 reward offered last summer for the capture of the robbers of the Rio Arriba State Bank at Chama.

The bank was robbed June 24, 1931, by four men, who were caught shortly afterwards by residents of northern New Mexico and southern Colorado, who got on the trail. Wilber Heskitt, Horace Lewis and Roy Trapp confessed and were sentenced to life imprisonment. Arthur Amy, who insisted he was not a member of the gang but had hitch-hiked a ride with them not knowing they were bank robbers was convicted some time later and given a life sentence.

The seven men who share the reward, receiving \$71.45 each, are Pat Kelly, John Graham, W. W. Carlson, Clifford Reed, Tom Dodds, J. A. Donaldson and Ike Thatcher.

**WEATHER DELAYS  
SULPHUR TESTS**

Inclement weather has delayed the start on the two tests to be drilled in the Cottonwood community by the Union Sulphur Co. One of these tests is to be drilled by Pearson Brothers on the Oscar Pearson farm in the SE 1/4 sec. 3-16-25, and the other will be drilled by M. Bruning on the Fred Croon farm in lot 13, sec. 5-16-25.

**ACQUITTED**

G. C. Robertson a resident of Cottonwood was found not guilty by a jury in Chaves county district court at Roswell Friday night on a charge of larceny from an automobile. The jury had deliberated on the case approximately eight hours, receiving the case just before 3 o'clock Friday afternoon and returning the verdict at 10:30 Friday night. Robertson was defended by Attorney George L. Reese, Sr. of Roswell.

**WON'T FREE FALL BY JAN. 1**

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Action by the parole board before January 1 on liberating Albert B. Fall from prison was declared impossible by Attorney General Mitchell Tuesday.

Asked about reports that the board had submitted a report to President Hoover upon the case of the former secretary of the interior, now serving a year in New Mexico, Mitchell said no such report has been submitted and "none has been asked."

READ THE MESSENGER  
READ THE MESSENGER  
READ THE MESSENGER  
READ THE MESSENGER

**Grade School Notes**

Mrs. Palmer, Miss Pettigrew, Miss Banta and Miss Birdwell gave the primary grades a Christmas tree at gymnasium. We are sure they enjoyed the presents and the candy and nuts.

Miss Pearce gave a program in assembly Wednesday at one o'clock.

Thursday evening the freshman team went out with heads drooping when the 8th grade team beat them in a basket ball game 6-2. Lillard Dale, captain made four points, Lee Brigman, guard made the other two. The grade school and high school were all turned out for the game.

**WURTZEL—LATTION**

Miss Eloise Wurtzel, daughter of Mrs. Wurtzel, became the bride of Mr. James Lattion, son of Mrs. Minnie Lattion, in a simple ceremony at the Methodist church last Sunday at high noon.

Rev. Bryan Hall, officiated, and the ceremony was performed in the presence of a few intimate friends and relatives of the young couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Lattion will make their home in Hagerman.

The Messenger joins their many friends in the wish of a lifetime of happiness and success for them.

**BRIDGE PARTY**

Misses Lucy Pettigrew and Mayre Losey were hostesses to a bridge party at the W. A. Losey home on last Saturday night.

Delicious refreshments of quail, potato salad, olives, hot rolls, cake topped with whipped cream and coffee were served.

Players were Misses Nell Burt, Jessie George, Nora Clemens, Loula Denham, Clyde Pearce, Peggy Harrison, Renalee Banta Rosalie Birdwell, Mmes. W. A. Losey, Floyd Childress and the hostesses.

**NOTICE**

After January 1st, all work will be cash, and no credit will be extended longer than thirty days. We need cash on back accounts. J. L. King, Blacksmith Shop. 52-3tc

**Enjoy  
The Attractions of  
The Pecos Valley's  
Finest  
Theatre**

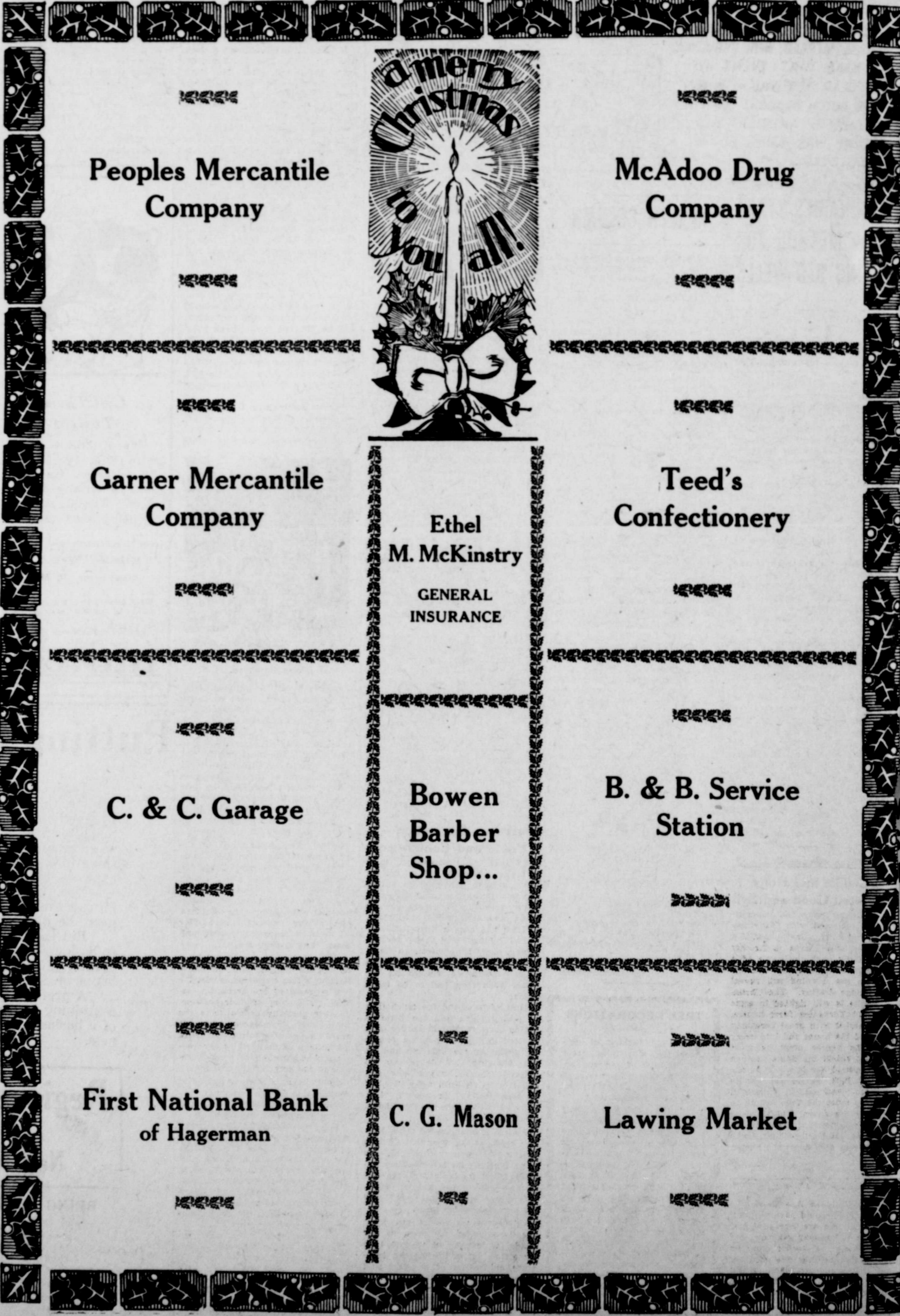
**Friday and Saturday  
DECEMBER 25-26**  
GEORGE BANCROFT  
"Rich Man's Folly"

**Sunday and Monday  
DECEMBER 27-28**  
GEORGE WHITE'S  
"Flying High"

**Tuesday Only  
DECEMBER 29**  
WALTER HUSTON  
LORETTA YOUNG

**"The Ruling Voice"  
Wednesday-Thursday  
DECEMBER 30-31**  
NANCY CARROLL  
"Personal Maid"

**YUCCA**  
"The Pick of the Pictures"  
Roswell, N. M.



**Peoples Mercantile  
Company**

**Garner Mercantile  
Company**

**C. & C. Garage**

**First National Bank  
of Hagerman**

**Ethel  
M. McKinstry**  
GENERAL  
INSURANCE

**Bowen  
Barber  
Shop...**

**C. G. Mason**

**McAdoo Drug  
Company**

**Teed's  
Confectionery**

**B. & B. Service  
Station**

**Lawing Market**

**a merry  
Christmas  
to you all!**

Hagerman with heal located.

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