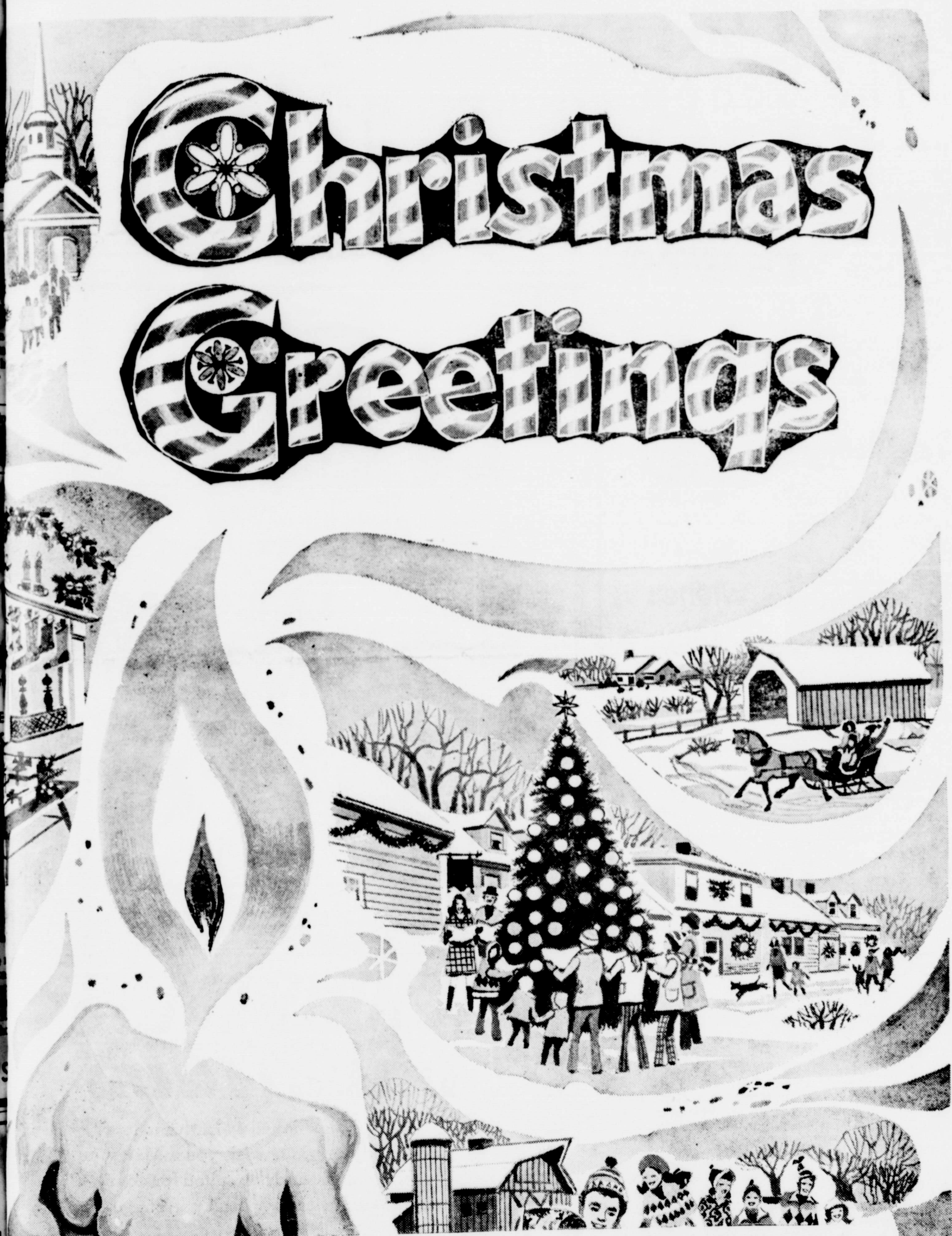


Standard Printing Co.
220-230 South 1st St.
Louisville, Ky. 40202

Christmas Greetings



The Rankin News

SERVING THE INTERESTS OF RANKIN AND UPTON COUNTY

VOLUME XXXVIII—52

RANKIN (79778), UPTON COUNTY, TEXAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1974

BY SCOOP . . . J. B. Hutchens, Jr., Editor

The Scoop

CHRISTMAS '74 —

Well, ready or not, we have now reached another Christmas and almost the end of another year. For the little folk — and some of the big ones — it's finally time to find out what's in those packages that have been tucked under the trees for all these tantalizing weeks.

May all you're be the right size and "just what you always wanted."

Perhaps this will not be one of the more delightful holiday

seasons for some for it's said that we're having a recession and inflation both at the same time and economists are somewhat at a loss to explain this. I can explain it; however, with this being Christmas time, I will not bore you with any long rendition on the economy. One of the nice things about the annual Christmas issue is that this column is either left out entirely or kept short. But after the first of the year—look out.

There is one thought that may be of consolation to those of us

who are a little on the ornery side. Keeping in mind that it's said that history has a way of repeating itself, we can take consolation in knowing that on down the line someday, another generation will have to put up with two or three years of a Watergate, too many football games and a depression when everybody's supposed to be rolling in money.

THE LETTERS —

I call your attention to the Letters to Santa, mostly from the Second Graders in Rankin Schools. As usual, there are one or two outstanding ones. And, (Continued to Page 11)

First Baptist Church

"Jesus Is The Saviour"

Jesus saith unto him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6)

The Apostle Paul said, "And He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the first born from the dead; in all things He might have the preeminence."

ACTIVITIES

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| SUNDAYS: | | WEDNESDAYS: | |
| 10:00 a.m. | Sunday School | 7:30 p.m. | Bible Study |
| 11:00 a.m. | Worship Service | | and Prayer Meeting |
| 6:00 p.m. | Training Union | | |
| 7:00 p.m. | Worship Service | | |



best wishes this Christmas

Wishing you the joy of a real old-fashioned family holiday.

With grateful thanks for your good will.

GOSSETT EXXON

The Rankin News

Published Weekly at 918 Grand Street, Rankin, Texas 79778 Ph. 693-2873, P. O. Drawer 445

J. B. HUTCHENS, JR.
Editor and Publisher

KATIE J. HUTCHENS
Bookkeeper - Circulation Mgr.

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Minimum Subscription: 12 Months

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ALL Announcements containing items for sale at a profit, admission charges, services, etc., are considered advertising and will be charged at regular rates. Advertising rates: Local, National, Political — 98c per col. in. Classified: 6c per word per issue. Card of Thanks: \$1.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

With old-fashioned warmth and lots of good cheer, we wish you a Merry Christmas . . . and thank you for your continued friendship and patronage.

Boggs Gro. & Mkt.

Sug and Ray & Staff

26, 1

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14.6)
e body,
dead;

ble Study
r Meeting

Merry
Christmas

May the peace and serenity of
the season be in your hearts and
in your lives — not only at
Christmas, but all through the
year. Thanks for your friendly
support and patronage.



FIRST STATE BANK

Member F.D.I.C.

Letters to Santa



Dear Santa Claus,

I hope everybody at the North Pole is well. Don't forget the poor children in the world.

Please bring me a fat stuffed dog sitting up and a pin to write friends names on it.

Your friend,
Kimberley Ruth Nicholson
—Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Claus,

I have been so good at school that I would like to have a present at school. And, don't forget my baby brother, Rhyne. And don't forget to write Robby and Rhyne and I letters. And, don't forget Mommy and Daddy too.

How is Mrs. Claus getting a long? How is Rudolph getting a long? How are YOU getting along? Is Rudolph ready for Christmas?

Your friend
RaiLynn Rundell
— Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Claus,

How is Mrs Claus. I want a train and I want a bic

Your Friend
Rob Leck
— Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Claus

Father and Mother are good with us. Me and my brother are good with Sant Claus.

Can you bring me a bike

Your friend
Hector Ledesma
— Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Claus,

I am a good boy. I live you so much. I have been so good at school.

and I want a lot of toys of gun.

Your friend,
Marsial
Marsial Ramirez Dec. 9, 1974

— Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Claus,

I been good.
I wuld like a bike And I wuld like some books to.

Don't forget mother and daddy.

your friend,
Alfredo Perez
— Merry Christmas —



IN LIEU OF SENDING CARDS TO OUR FRIENDS
IN TOWN THIS YEAR, WE ARE TAKING THIS
MEANS TO WISH ALL
A MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Doc and Squeak Adams

Merry Christmas



May the gaiety and glee
of this holiday season
brighten the hearts and homes of our
friends. Thanks for your loyalty.

Closed Dec. 25-26 & on Jan. 1st

Johnson's

Charlie Wheeler Family
and Staff

GREETINGS

We extend our very Best Wishes to you for
the Holiday Season and say "Thank You"
for your Patronage.



M & Drive-In

Dean, Linda, Kim and "Shot"

Letters to Santa



Dear Santa Claus,

How are your elves doing Miss Santa?

Mr. Santa Claus, I want a desk, a Snoopy sharpener and a Snoopy toothbrush.

Your friend,

Daun Holder

— Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Claus,

I Love your elves. We are going to have a party at school. I wish the Africa Children has toys. I wish I had a bike for Danny and me.

Your friend,

Deanna Evans

— Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Claus,

I hope you and Mrs. Santa are doing fine with your elves. And how are your reindeers too.

And I want an eight-ball. A



Instead of sending Christmas Cards to local people, we are making a donation to the State 4-H Fund.

WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS MEANS TO WISH
OUR FRIENDS
MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Dub Days

A MERRY CHRISTMAS



Hope it's filled with gifts galore.
Our bountiful thanks to each of you.

The Western Motel

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Sheffield, Owners

Fred Prentice Sets Record Straight —

Court Takes No Action on Question of Redistricting

Upton County Commissioners Court met Thursday, December 19 with all members present. Minutes of the meeting show the following:

MOTION by Commissioner LaQuey, duly seconded by Commissioner Fletcher that Upton County re-district the four precincts of Upton County.

Commissioners LaQuey and Fletcher voting AYE.

Commissioners Workman and Adams voting NO.

County Judge Allen Moore had the following to say before voting on the motion.

"In the past twelve years, we have seen our business, social and recreational interest develop remarkably between the two cities where it hardly existed before. We know that this kind of relationship is beneficial to both communities. We need to see that it continues.

I fail to see any sign or good will that can be accomplished by passing this motion. The division of the four commissioner precincts by McCamey and Rankin commissioners as redistricted in 1954 was by mutual trust to work for the good of Upton County.

Since that date, no two McCamey commissioners voting together have had their motion defeated. I think this action demonstrates the consideration our Commissioners have shown for the needs of the McCamey area.

I think that all citizens of

dinosaur set and a King-oil game. And a pivot-pool game a Santa Claus suit. And a football suit and cleets and a helmet and a sholder pads. And a shiny ring.

Your friend,

James Earl Black

—Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Claus,

I hope your elves are fine. And I hope your wife is fine too. Please bring me a B. B. gun.

Your friend,

Jose Hernandez

— Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa,

I hope you and Mrs. Claus are doing vere well I hope you can came visit us some times. I bet your elves work vere hard. I want cloth gloves and a play rifle and a flintsone toothbrush and a snoopy pencil sharpener and a rill pocket knife.

Your friend,

Billy Joe Wheeler

— Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Claus,

I hope your elves are doing a good job.

Santa Clause and please bring the poor children some toys. I want a doll and a play house and a boton.

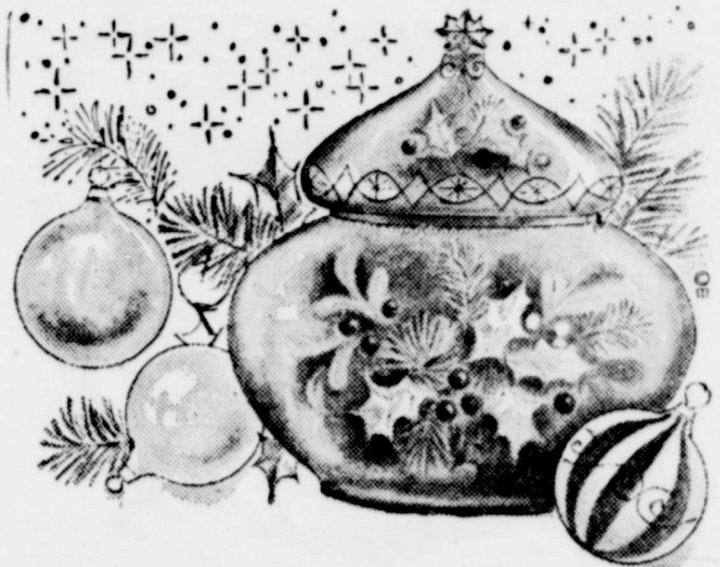
Your friend,

Amparo Garcia

The Rankin (Texas) News —
Thursday, December 26, 1974

The court then adjourned and the annual Christmas party was held at the courthouse for all employees and invited guests.

(Editor's Note: On January 1, 1975, the Commissioners Court will see two new faces; those of County Judge Peggy Garner, and Precinct 4 Commissioner Boob Kelton. The court is expected to consider the matter again sometime after the new court is formed.)



Carrol and Betty Daniel of
RANKIN DRUG
want to wish all our faithful
customers and friends a
Very Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year.



May your life be filled with
good things at holiday
time and always. Thank
you for your kind generosity.

Rankin Drive-In Grocery

Rankinite Now in Houston Hospital

Wayne A. Davis, of 806 Haff St., Rankin, a 25-year Halliburton employee and a 12-year resident here, is in the cancer hos-

pital in Houston.

He is suffering from acute leukemia infected, gastro-spasms, and staph. He has been palced in isolation in the sterile unit, where he will remain for a least eight weeks.

For those of his friends and fellow employees who wish to write or send cards, they will be appreciated.

His address: Wayne A. Davis,

9 M. D. Anderson Hospital, Rm W-314, Bretner Avenue, Houston, Texas.

RHS Speech Class Ends Paper Drive

Due to the fact that there is no longer a market for used newsprint and other papers that would make it a profitable operation, the Speech Class at the Rankin High School has suspended their collection efforts.

For the past several months, the class has asked, and received, the cooperation of local residents in depositing old newspapers and other scrap paper in barrels at the post office.

"The Speech Class of RHS is deeply grateful to the people of Rankin and the community for the fine support they gave us during our used paper drive. We want to thank everyone who helped us," said a class spokesman this week.

No Presents for Allen Moore Day

Persons planning to attend the Allen Moore Day, Monday, December 30, at which retiring Upton County Judge Allen Moore is to be honored, are requested to not bring gifts.

"All we ask is that you come and bring a few kind words," said one of the sponsors of the event.

Upton Bond Sales Go Over the Goal

Sales of United States Savings Bonds were running at a pace of 111 percent of the 1974 goal during the first ten month of the year, according to Dunn Lowery Upton Savings Bond chairman and president of First State Bank of Rankin.

According to Lowery, October sales amounted to \$2,676 and the ten-month total was \$44,365.

As a rule, Upton County is one of the top Saving Bond purchasing counties, percentage-wise, in Texas.

October sales in Texas totaled \$21,154,479, compared to sales of \$16,634,914 during the same period of 1973— an increase of 27 percent. Total sales for the January-October 1974 period were at \$195,016,443, representing 82 percent of the \$236.8 million goal for the year.

"Savings Bonds are still one of the best investment," noted the chairman, "and folks still have strong faith in the U. S. system as indicated by their purchasing of bonds."

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,

Elves are helping you. Santa Claus brings dolls to everybody to the children who are with Santa Claus to tell him that you want some toys.

Your friend,
Rosa Martinez

— Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa

All I want for Christmas is my 4 front teeth. It would be nice to have a doll and a stroller.

I have been a good girl. Thank you.

Love
Beth Manville

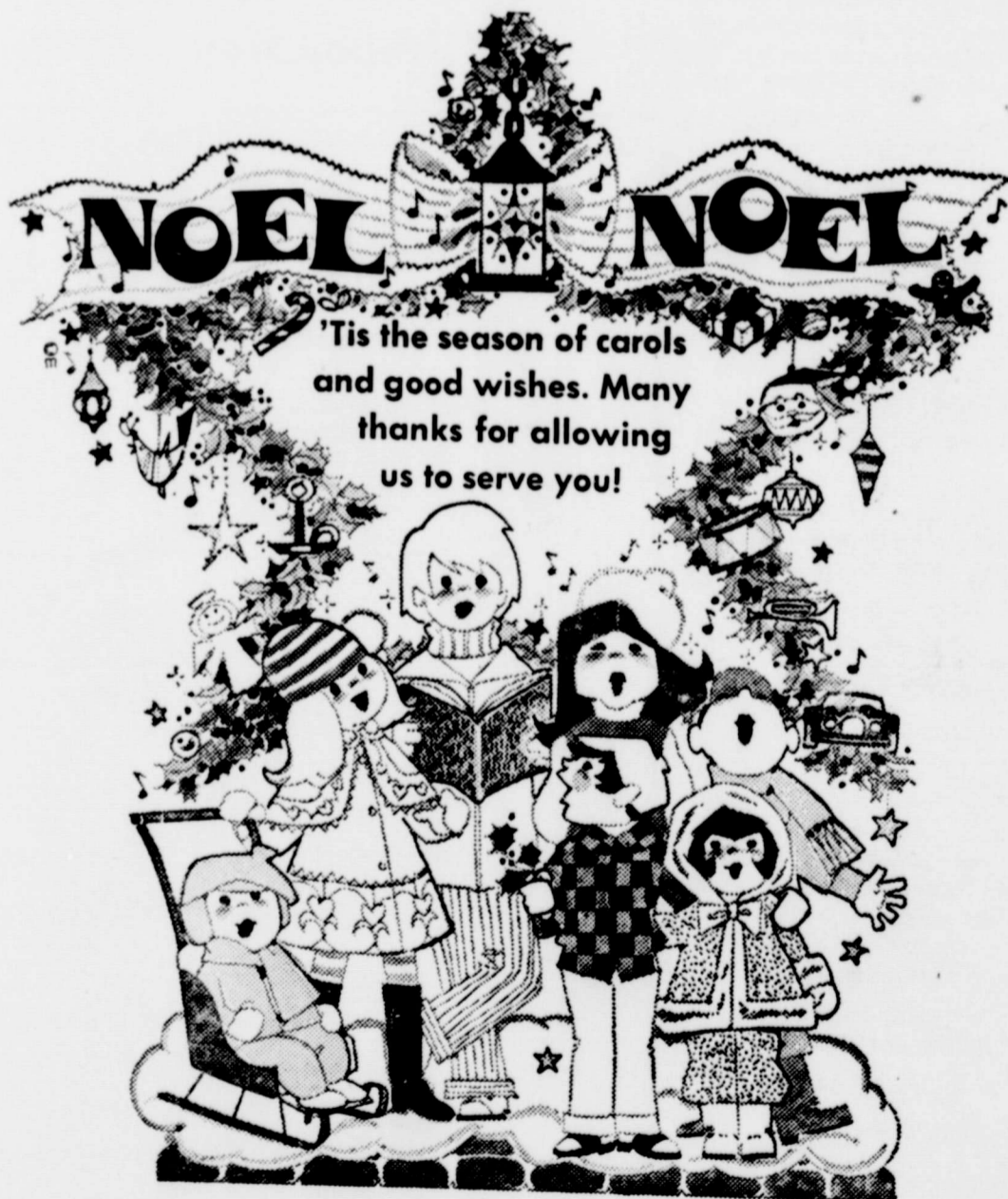
— Merry Christmas —



Hope the holiday season lifts
your spirit with happiness, laughter.

Thanks to all the folks
we have had the pleasure of serving.

Titsworth Texaco Service



NOEL NOEL

'Tis the season of carols
and good wishes. Many
thanks for allowing
us to serve you!

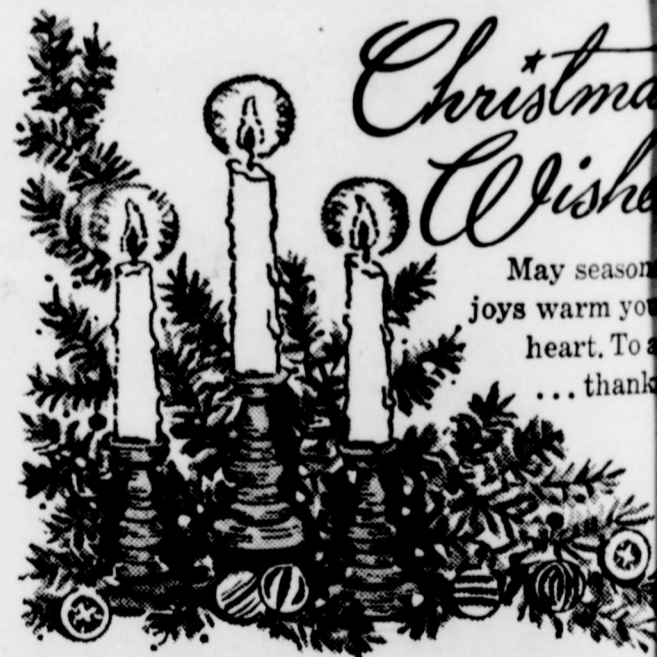
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Menefee



Merry Christmas

I want to take this
of extending Season's
Greetings to all my
friends, and my sincere
is that you have all
things come your way
you and yours in the
ahead.

Mary Pierce



Christmas Wishes

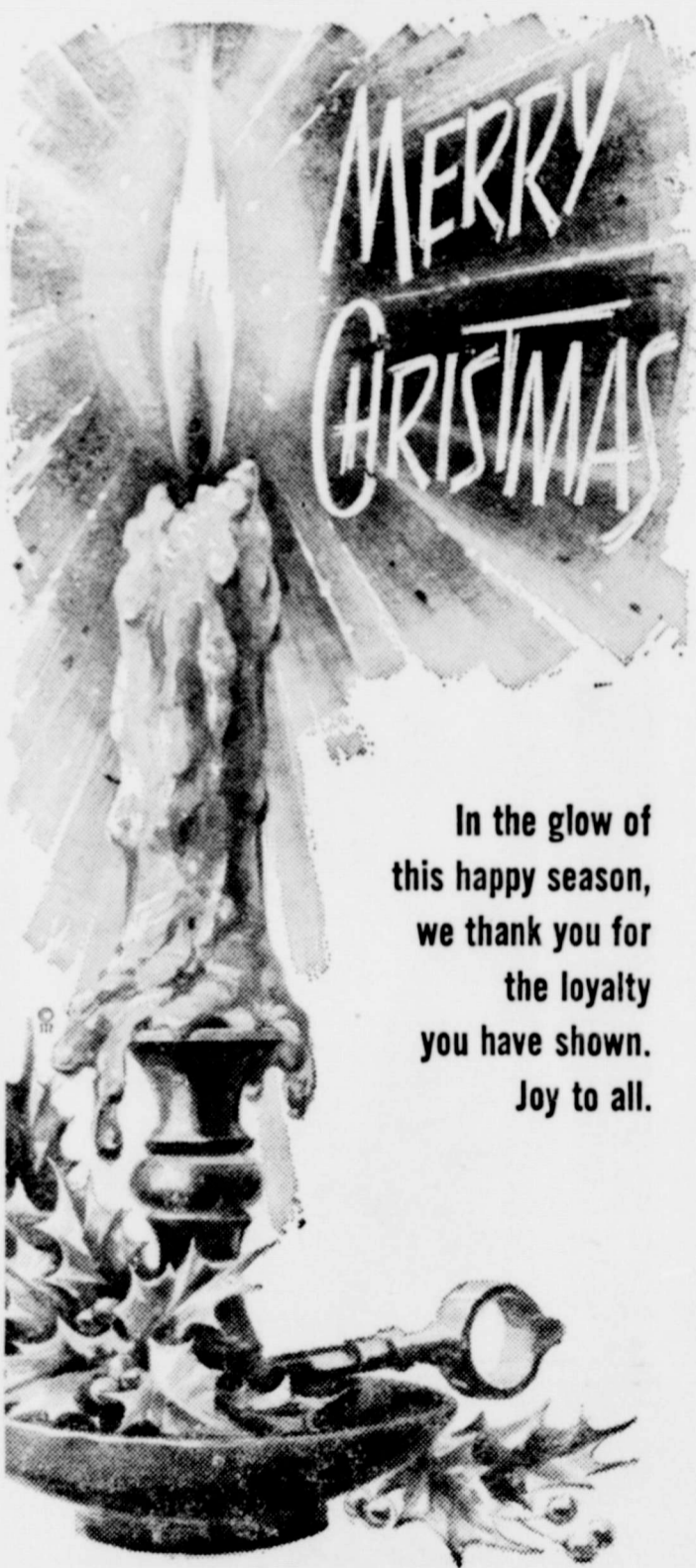
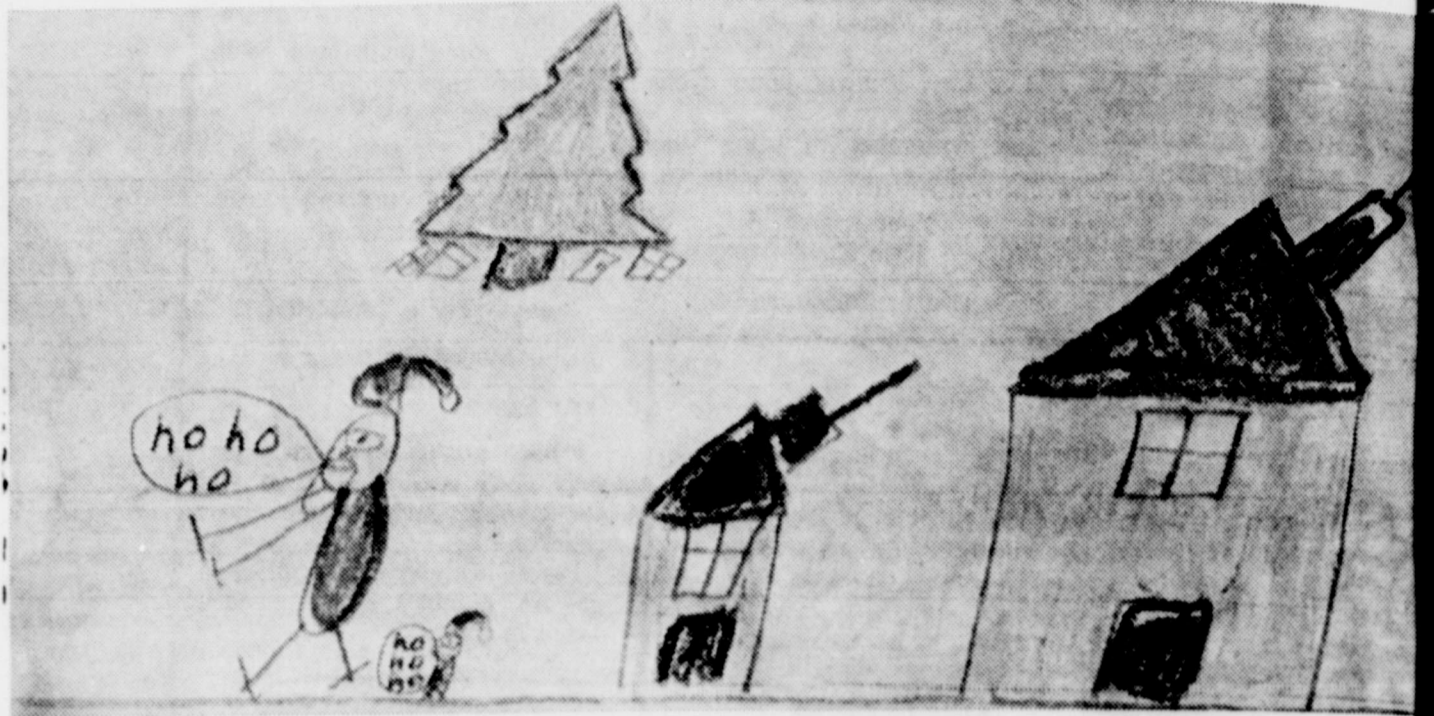
May seasonal
joys warm your
heart. To all
... thanks.

The Old Santa Fe Trail

Mr. and Mrs. Brijido Esparza

POOL HALL — BEER — GROCERIES

On Christmas Eve
 Santa and the elfe
 went ho ho ho all over
 town. They were so
 happy
 Santa Claus had
 presnts.



In the glow of
 this happy season,
 we thank you for
 the loyalty
 you have shown.
 Joy to all.

May Your New Year Be A
 Happy and Prosperous One.

**DUNN LOWERY
 INSURANCE AGENCY**

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa Claus,
 I have been a good boy.
 May I have a bicycle and a
 big wheel.
 Your friend,
 Mike Carlton
 — Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Claus,
 I have been so good at School
 I want pon-pons and a baton and

a baby a live
 I Love you
 Your friend
 Sheila Cook
 — Merry Christmas —

Dear Santa Clous
 How are you doing?
 How is Mis. Clous?
 How are the elfs?

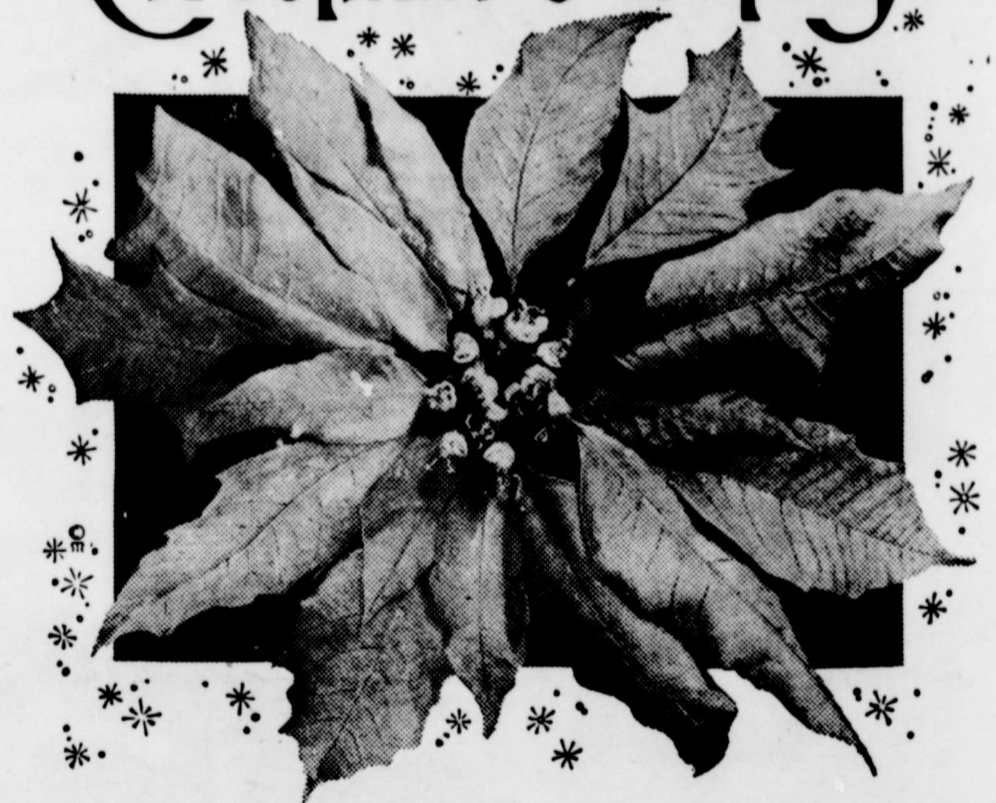
I want a baby a live. I want
 a Snoopy pencil sharpen.

I love vere much Sant
 Your friend
 Christi
 — Merry Christmas

Dear Santa Claus
 I wish you a Merry
 mas. I have been Good
 do miss Claus. How are
 elves doing. I want a
 of roller skates.

Your friend,
 LaVon Love

Christmas Greetings



*Ellen and I wish all of you a Merry Christmas
 and a Happy and Prosperous New Year*

We wish to thank you again for giving me the
 opportunity to serve you as your
 County Judge the past twelve years.

Allen and Ellen Moore

Scoop -

(Continued from Page 2)

Most of the kids point to Santa that they have all very good boys and girls" just before Christmas. You sorta get the impression that what they're really after is, "Boy, just wait until Christmas is over—we'll make it

there was one lad who grew up with an original. In twenty-five years of setting letters to type, I do recall a kid asking for a Claus suit for Christmas. This one did. And if you think about it a minute, you see where he's a thinker-person.

You ask for the Santa Claus suit, one expects to get the sack with it, right? And if you get the sack, why then you have the whole ball of wax.

Red Devil Band Once Scored Six-out-of-Seven Sweepstakes

As had been expected, former Rankin Band Director Fred T. Prentice proved not only to be a talented band director, but also an accurate keeper of records—ones that he can find. Gordon Shultz, present Band Director, is attempting to work up a history of the Red Devil Band and has been searching back issues of The News in an effort to get all the facts. At a request through The Scoop column, Mr. Prentice sent a letter last week giving full details—plus clippings from the News—of the band's efforts during his tenure as director.

With that sort of thinking, that kid is going to go a long way.

A Merry Christmas to you and all at your house and may you find every happiness in the New Year ahead.

It shows that Rankin took six of seven years in a row with a Sweepstake, the highest honor a band can win in UIL competition. These wins were in 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57, 1958-59, 1959-60, 1960-61. In 1953-54, the band did not enter marching but received a I Rating in Concert and Sight Reading and a Special Award. In 1957-58, they had I's in Marching and Sight and a II in Concert when they—as Fred noted—got "pretty cocky" (as usual) and tried playing a number from the AA music list—and still got a II.

Information is still needed on the band for the years up until about 1968.

School Menu

DECEMBER 30-JANUARY 3
Mon., Tues, Wed.—School Out

BREAKFAST THURSDAY

Hot Rolls, Jelly, Oatmeal or Rice, Juice

FRIDAY

Hot Donuts, Cold Cereal, Juice

LUNCH THURSDAY

Celery Sticks, Corn Dog or Burrito, French Fries, Ranch Style Beans, Hot Light Bread Chocolate Cake

FRIDAY

Gelatine Salad with Topping, Hamburgers, Potato Chips, Ice Box Cookies

CORRECTION

Contrary to what the "kicker headline" says on the story about the Commissioners Court in this issue of The News, Fred Prentice was not involved in the Court's deliberations.

This is an error in the makeup of the copy story.

It's A Chrismon Tree



No, Virginia, it's not a misspelling. It's not a Christmas tree; it's a Chrismon tree and it's located in the Rankin United Methodist Church.

With the exception of the tree, which is real, and a string of small silver light, all decorations on the tree are those made by church members, of silver

and gold, and depict something of Christ. The idea of a Chrismon tree is said to have originated only about five or six years ago and is becoming popular as a church decoration during the Christmas season.

And it is, indeed, a work of art in addition to a reflection of the true meaning of the Christmas season; honoring the birth of Christ.

Midkiff Club has Progressive Party

Midkiff Study Club had a Progressive Dinner Party December 17, starting at 6:30 p.m. Appetizers were served in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Barrett with the hosts being Mr. and Mrs. Gene Braden, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Whorton, and Mr. and Mrs. Barrett.

Entree was in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Smith. Hosting that portion of the party were Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Midkiff, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Midkiff, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Winters, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Poyner, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Rosenbaum, Mr. and Mrs. Handley Driver and Mr. and Mrs. David Cole.

Dessert was in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Hester. The hosts were Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Notgrass, Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Richardson and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Felts.

Games and recreation were enjoyed along the way.

IF YOU'RE PLANNING A HOLIDAY TRIP ...

WE STRONGLY SUGGEST THAT YOU CONSIDER TRIP INSURANCE

The High Costs of Today, You Really Can't Have Too Insurance—Even If You Already Have Coverage—And Insurance Is One Thing That's Still Reasonably Priced.

IT'S WORTH IT FOR YOUR PEACE OF MIND

DUNN LOWERY
INSURANCE AGENCY
Phone 693-2402

You Find It And We'll Finance It



Bank financing is still your cheapest and most convenient method of financing a new or used car or truck. See us for details on a financing plan to fit your budget.

The First State Bank

MEMBER FDIC RANKIN, TEXAS

LUTHERAN CHURCH SERVICES
EACH SUNDAY

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service: 5:30 p.m.
Elizabeth & 8th Sts.

Come worship with us on Sunday mornings and explore the meaning of Christianity in today's world.

The Adult Sunday School Class
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Perk Up with Ice Cream

M & N DRIVE-INN

WEST HWY. 67 — RANKIN — 693-2730
Call Your Orders in & Come By & Pick Them Up
HOURS: 10 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

Holiday Closings Are Varied

Closings for Rankin for the upcoming holidays are as varied as are the business houses and offices. Rankin Schools closed last Friday and will not reopen until January 6—much to the delight of many of the inmates — er, students.

County office plan to be closed December 23 thru 25 and again on January 1st for the one day. Road and Bridge employees are to work Monday, getting off December 24th and 25th and on New Year's Day.

City Hall will be closed December 24th and 25th and January 1st.

Other closings that have been indicated include Boggs Grocery where they plan to close the 25th and 26th and January 1st and 2nd for inventory. Cashway Grocery has announced closings for December 25th and January 1st.

Rankin Durg and the Rankin News will take vacations. For Rankin Drug, it will be a closing from December 25 until January 2. The News office is to be closed Dec. 23rd until January

6th.

Johnson's closing plans are for December 25th and 26th and January 1st. Rancher's Wool & Supply will close early on December 24th and will be closed all day Christmas—as well as New Years; however, there is to be someone available to give service to anyone in need of supplies if they will contact Mr. Workman at his home number.

Roy's Restaurant is to close Tuesday and Wednesday of December; but tentative plans call for the establishment to be open January 1st. Generally, other business places will "take off"

for Christmas. Halliburton and Western Company — well, it doesn't look promising, what with all the work coming in. And there are those saying we

The Rankin (Texas) News — Thursday, December 26, 1974

are in a depression, with or no work.

WANT ADS

Buy Rent Sell Trade

CLASSIFIED AD RATES for the Rankin News: 6-cents per word per issue. Minimum charge of 95c per ad when paid in cash; \$1.50 minimum charge on all ads put on charge account unless advertiser has active account with The News.

WE NEED HELP: If you want to work, or know of someone who does, please contact Roy's Restaurant, Phone 693-2859 in Rankin.

MATTRESSES: New or rebuilt. Made by Western Mattress Write P. O. Box 5288, San Angelo 76901. They are guaranteed. For a convenient home appointment, call Turner Motel, 693-2274.

FOR SALE: Three bedroom home, located in Rankin. For details, write P. O. Box 55, Big Lake, Tx 76932. (btf 10 31)

FOR A GOOD used car, see our selection at D & R Car Sales at East Hwy. 67. Cars bought, sold and traded. Phone 693-2328, or home phone 693-2357.

FOR YOUR Mary Kay Cosmetics, call Barbara Stephens at 693-2352 or come by 502 Royal. (b 11 21)

TAPES: at Red Bluff Lumber Company, good selection. Regular tapes, \$2.95; party tapes, \$3.75.

WE WILL BE OPEN until December 25th—through the 24th—for your last minute shopping needs. We will be closed from Dec. 25 until Jan. 2. Rankin Drug Store.

Avon Cosmetics

Substitute Representatives for December — Call

JANICE ROGERS
Phone 693-2570
Halliburton East to Willams

LEE ORA CASTON
Phone 693-2777
Buckland and East

Attention Fishermen!

✓ CHECK our stock of Zeb Rods and Reels. We feel that we have got the lowest price offered anywhere.

COME IN AND SEE **JOHNSON'S**

THE MAGIC OF TREWAX RUG SHAMPOO

DO It Yourself—the Professional Way for as little as \$5 a room. Rent electric shoe pooper \$1 day with purchase.

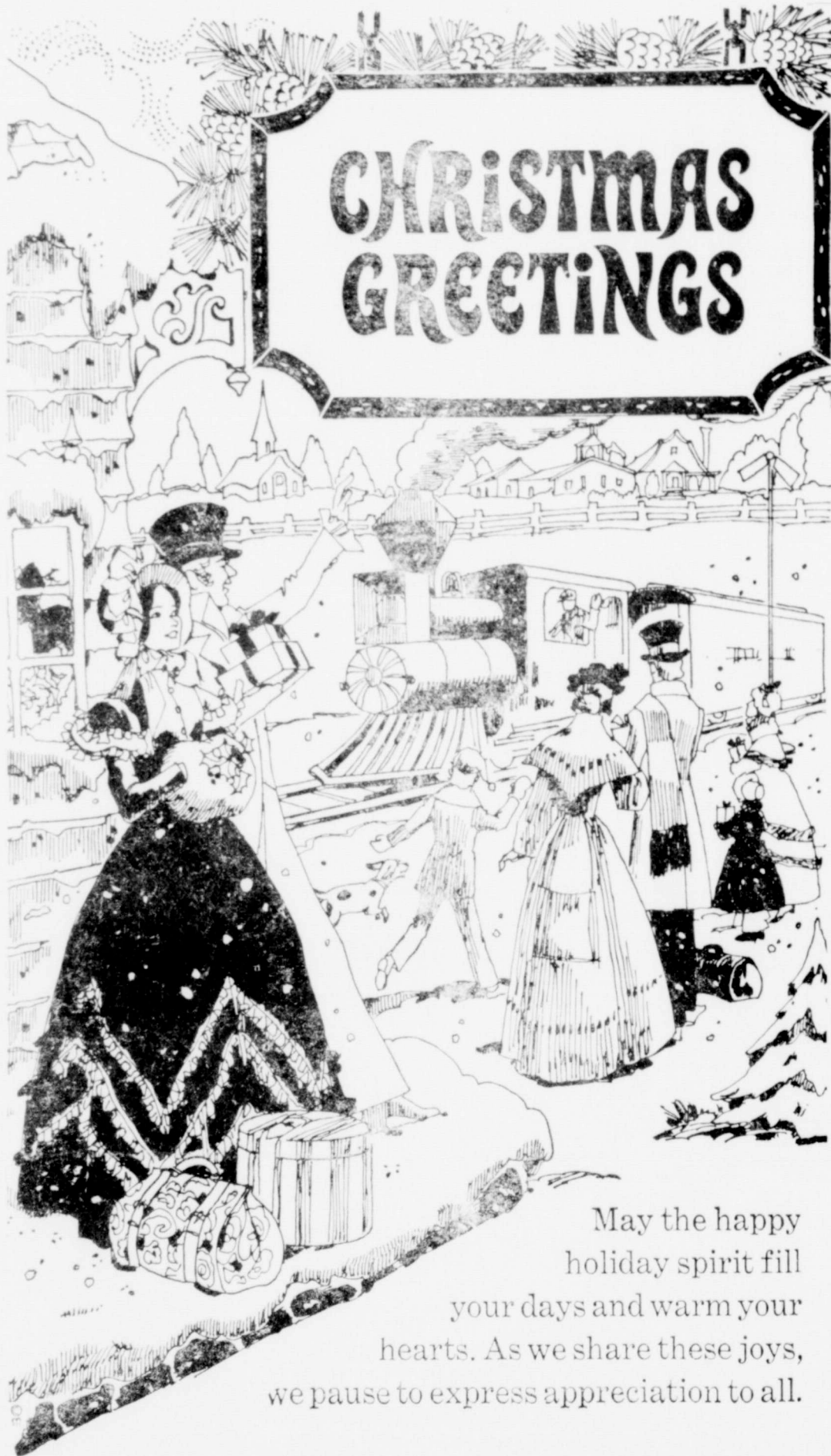
Cleans your carpets like 15 to 1 concentrate makes more than any other shampoo. UP & OUT—A remarkable rug stain remover. Removes dog stains, ink, shoe polish, Mertholate.

JOHNSON'S

Out of Orbit



"ODD SORTS—THESE EAR BEINGS!"



May the happy holiday spirit fill your days and warm your hearts. As we share these joys, we pause to express appreciation to all.

Cashway Food Store

Mr. and Mrs. Dell Cooledge

RUBBER STAMPS

MADE TO ORDER

One-Day Service — Mail Orders Appreciated
☆ ALSO: Stamp Pads (red, black, green, purple) only \$1. Rubber Stamp Paid ink (roll-on) \$1 in 4 colors.

ORDER TODAY. DON'T SEND MONEY 'TILL YOU GET THE MERCHANDISE

The Rankin News

P. O. Drawer 445 — Rankin, Texas 79778