Time for Rejoicing and Remembering

For most folks Christmas is the happiest time of the year. It is also the time when we see the most thinking about our fellow men, our homes, our friends, and life in general. Maybe you have often said to yourself, "Too bad we can't have Christmas the whole year through. Why can't folks have the Christmas spirit always?"

We can't answer that question. Perhaps it lies in the fact that the daily routine of this busy world of ours catches up with us once the holidays are over. But, at best, that is a pretty lame excuse.

If we can't have the Christmas spirit all the year through (and we're not admitting by any means that it would be impossible) let's make the most of the holiday itself.

For instance, let's make Christmas the occasion for exchanging good will with our fellow men. Let's enjoy the living of gifts and the reunion with friends and family. Most of all, let's make Christmas a time for sober reflections of our blessings.

Let's remember there are others who do not rejoice with us. In much of the rest of the world Christmas will be sad—just another day of despair and hunger, of suffering and unrest. On the other hand we are blessed with the bounties of nature and with the materials and means of producing the goods we need to live. We enjoy the highest living standards and a freedom that is the envy of those who have let it slip from their grasp—a freedom that is only a dream to those who have never known it.

So let's put worries aside, remember these blessings, and give thanks. Let's try to carry over into 1951 this holiday spirit, so that everything we hold dear, friendships, jobs, families, and all the benefits we enjoy—can be preserved.

Horsed hoofs are clapping, clapping Drawing sleighs of Christmas toys. People all are shopping, shopping Buying gifts for girls and boys.

Hear the church bells ringing, ringing As the snow comes drifting down. Clear, sweet voices singing, singing Fill the air the world around.

Shining faces beaming, beaming Dreams of Christmas in their eyes. Lighted windows gleaming, gleaming Christmas joy around us lies. Santa's pack he's flinging, flinging Toys and gifts he's bringing, bringing Adding to the Yuletide cheer. By E. Burdick

Christmas Customs of Different Countries

Although the observance of Christmas is universal, individual traditions and practices are as varied as the countries from which they come. Many of these customs are definitely a part of our Christmas celebration but there are many lesser-known ones which are nonetheless rich and meaningful.

"Star of Wonder, Star of Night..." The star is a universal symbol used in many countries. In Poland, for instance, Christmas dinner is not served until the evening star shines in the heavens, while from Alaska comes an especially interesting custom called "Going Round with the Star." A star-shaped wooden frame is covered with bright tissue paper and for three nights prior to Christmas it is carried from door to door by carol-singing boys and girls.

"How Far That Little Candle Throws Its Beams..." It is an old Irish custom to place a lighted candle standing in a window on Christmas Eve to light the Christ-child on his way, and the use of a candle appears in many other lands and in many different ways. In Armenia, myriads of candles are used in the Christmas celebrations, and in Czechoslovakia tiny candles are set upright in nutshells and floated in pans of water. At church services in Labrador each child receives a little lighted candle standing in a turnip (which is eaten later by the youngster). In Norway, families arrive at church on Christmas Eve in sleds, each carrying a flaming torch. These are stuck upright in the snow while the good folk attend services, bathing the outside of the church in a bright glare of light.

The Christmas Feast Foods vary with each country, too. In England, for instance, the "Wassail Bowl" is a traditional spreader of holiday joviality. There is an old Greek custom called "the Luck of Christmas"; for Greek youngsters go out on Christmas morning to collect the same figs and raisins and walnuts and sweets, that crown our holiday tables.

"A Visit From St. Nick" Santa is known by many names: Pere Noel (Father Christmas) in France; Kris Kringle in Germany (from Christ Kindl, or Christ Child); St. Nicholas in Belgium. In Iceland Santa comes in the form of a tiny elf, and though Syrian children have no Santa Claus, they know of a tiny character that accompanied the Wise Men. They leave bowls of grain and water outside their doors for this weary little traveler and, there as here, the good children find gifts on Christmas morning. "Drew the Chimney St. Nicholas Came With a Bound."

In olden times, the English had a notion that it was necessary to sweep down the chimney at New Years in order that good luck could enter the home. Perhaps this is where Santa...
Engagements
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Buda recently announced the engagement of their daughter, Virginia, who works in Ceramics, to Ernest Gregory who works in Traffic and Export.
Mr. and Mrs. Francis A. Herzog have announced the engagement of their daughter, Joan Marie, who works on the F. P. Assembly, to Richard Francis Giroux. The wedding will take place on January 13.

Incomes Tax Handbooks Available
A 1951 Income Tax Handbooks are available at the Employment Office. The handbooks are free of charge to all employees of Sprague Electric Company. Contained in the handbooks are explanations as to how to file your tax return, how a refund may be obtained, the way in which taxes can be reduced by "Income Splitting," how to claim your exemptions and the legal deductions to which everyone is entitled.

Marshall Street News, Machine Shop
By John and Nick
Lou Moroz and Ed Bartlett and Frank Petrie enjoyed their vacations. Frank was unsuccessful at deer hunting.
We extend our sympathy to George Scarborough on the death of his mother.

Sample Lab
By Isidore Hyndman
Congratulations to Nini Suarez and Paul Trutram on completing twenty years of service with the Sprague Electric Company.
A belated Happy Birthday to Bob McDonald who celebrated his on December 9. We're still trying to find out how old he is.
Theresa Brownson has been appointed assistant bookkeeper for the Sprague Lassco.
Mrs. June Marie and Edward O'Neil visited the home of a fortune teller recently. Oh what a surprise, we're looking for a good palmist now and we would be glad to hear from anyone who knows of one.

Dry Tubular Assembly
By Puin 'n Boots
Claire Chalfoun and Barbara Cam- pedalli enjoyed their vacation at Presque Isles in Maine.
We all hope that Eleanor Brooks is better and will soon be back with us.
We all wish Terry Worthington good luck in her new department.
Congratulations to Pat Kenyon who recently moved to a new house. By the way, Pat has been waiting since April 1950.

Well, Christmas is almost here...

Mincemeat Pie
Christmas dinner, with its turkey and stuffing and trimmings, is sub-

Dessert

Christmas Cheer
For the Christmas holidays you need a special recipe file, and this Date Cake should have a place of honor in this file. It is simple to make and yet perfect for holiday entertaining. Another excellent attribute of this cake is that it is equally good served hot or cold.
First serve it hot for the final touch of a festive dinner, and as a send-up to accompany it, we suggest Lemon Sauce. The next day, if you have any cake left (which we doubt), let it become a complimentary bit of coffee or tea.
In any event, once you have made Date Cake, you will find that it will become a regular order for your cake shop.

Date Cake
2 eggs
1 cup sugar
1 cup milk
cup Kegling's Rice Krispies
teaspoon baking powder
chopped nuts
chopped dates
Rice Krispies

Cake

At the Supervisors' party held at Petye Dinks on December 16, everybody had a wonderful time. Many of the group had quite a bit of trouble before supper as Houghton Street was all ice but that didn't keep anyone from the party. Someone left their grab-bag gifts in the wrong coat pocket, much to the delight of the owner of the coat. Since Santa was busy at many other parties, his helper, Jack Washburn, took over the job.

Cutting the cake at the Christmas party were, left to right, H. B. Penson, Frank Petrie, Linda Eiden, and Mrs. Kenyon. The group enjoyed a program of music and drama which was presented by the Grade School.

Categories: Marion Conon
Social Chairman: Ann Heath
Assistant Editors: Kit Carson, Tom Colen, Dan Kelly, Peter Mancuso, Jim Oldham, Erta Owen and Laurence Haskins.
Sports: Kenneth Russell
Photographer: Al Herdall

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Continued on page 1:

got the idea. In any case, the chimney is now a familiar Christmas symbol.

"Enry Banks of all"

Blood is Needed
Our local blood bank has been seriously depleted because of the tremendous amount of blood which is being sent to the armed forces.
We need donors in North Adams and you can help this need by sending in your name to Miss Erta Owen at the Beaver Street Dispensary if you wish to donate blood.

Weddings

Kleiner-Montgomery
Miss Gladys May, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kleiner, became the bride of Ralph Curtiss Montgomery, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Montgomery, on December 2 at St. Mark's Church. The bride is employed in the Metal Club Department and the groom works in Centrifuge.
The combined eludes of the First Congregational Church gave their Christmas broadcast on December 20 under the direction of Ralph U. Donin.

Industrial Oils
By Ann Haath
Happy Birthday to Lena Deso. We all enjoyed the unveling of Mary Gold's sheel other noon and we'll had a "grilling" good time. Betty Coleman and Sally are knitting socks for their husbands. Betty says her husband is 40! call so I guess Betty will be knitting for quite awhile to get them long enough.

Barbara Cramdall is leaving soon for Tampa, Florida—she has our best wishes for a real nice vacation.

Isabelle will break the fellow who invented the pondboard. She has won everything from penguins to elephants—guess she is the kids' fairy godmother.

Flash! The thing in the box was found to be Louise Virellone's run floating on Cheshire Harbor—but Louise passed it on to George Cronin. Better hang on to it, George, it might do a disappearing act.

The boys and girls of the department got on their best evening clothes and took themselves to the White Oaks to an Xmas Party. Dancing to the music of Harry Hett's band was enjoyed and supper was catered by George Grosz as only George can do a disappearing act.

Bob Groves is our first boy to leave for the service. We all wish you the best of luck, Bob.

I want to thank everyone throughout the department for your cooperation the past year and wish you all a very Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

Molded Tubulars—Night Shift
By Lillian Forbush
Evelyn Trueheart has been telling our fortunes, jokimg and kidding aside, she's really good at it. Wanda Scarpitto is sporting a beautiful ring she received from her husband on her birthday. "Pop" Campoldelli had to take her daughter to Boston again. We are all wishing her a speedy recovery. With Christmas around the corner the girls are all busy buying presents. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

K. V. A. Department
We would like to welcome Howard Birdlick. We hope you like working with us.

Bill Pasotti who was on his vacation was one of the lucky people who shot a deer. Christmas is coming so we would like Sona to bring us another pizza pie. Should we say more, Joe? We have another member of the TV Club, Frank Santelli is now a proud owner of a set.

Molded Tubulars—First Shift
By Connie and Glady's
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

P.A.A. Wax Pouring
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us in Wax Pouring.

Molded Tubulars—Final Solder—Night Shift
By The Flash
Vera Davine and her family have moved into their own home. Best of everything, Vera.

We all wish the new paint job we are getting would smell as pleasant as it looks.

The girls had a very enjoyable Christmas party at Petey Disko's on Sunday, December 30. Their feet still hurt from so much dancing.

Welcome to George Paquin. We hope you will enjoy working with us. We miss you, Peggy Falnery, get well soon and come back to the gang.

Best of luck and get-well wishes to Betty LaBonte who is in the North Adams Hospital.

Not too many people like snow but here's hoping we all have a white Christmas. Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year everyone from the Final Solderers.

Wire Coating—Second Shift
The second shift appreciates being represented in the Sprague LOG by scoop reporter, "K" Gauthier.

Sue Galipeau returned from her vacation looking well rested. Her hair has grown a foot since the last time we saw her. The second shift was represented in the deer hunting season by George Hoyt and Peter Perrault with stories of big one they didn't see. Merry Xmas to all from the second shift.

Mica Department
By Ruth Bass
Welcome back to Lucy Sindells who has been vacationing in New York City. We hope every one of Macy's comparison shoppers have nothing on the Mica crowd. We spend rest periods and lunch hours comonining notes on prices, values etc.

Our Christmas party was held on Thursday, December 14.

Resistor Dept.
By Chick and Chuck
Charlie Connors of the night shift tells of an amusing incident that recently took place. Al Harvey was eating a hamburger at his desk and at some point he was sitting on the telephone. Before answering the call he went over to Charlie for some gum to take the smell of onions off his breath. Must have been a pretty strong onion at to carry over the telephone.

The song hit known as "The Thing" has finally reached the Resistor Department and Pete Pringle on a recent Friday was given the box with "The Thing." The 64 dollar question now is who will be surprised with "The Thing".

Joe Brewer is traveling soon to Goldsboro, North Carolina to be present at his sister Claire's wedding on December 28.

Final Solderers—Day Shift
Welcome back to your LOG reporters, Janet and Marion want to wish you one and all a Merry Christmas.

Once again, the girls and boys on the line had their Christmas party on December 11 at Petey Dinks. Dancing was enjoyed and a good time was had by all. Dan Burns and Rachel Garner are enjoying their vacations at home.

John Chidillemi spent his vacation repairing toys in the Fire Department.

A. C. Dry Assembly and Centrifuge
By Joyce Harrington and Harry Embrey
Everybody is eagerly anticipating the Christmas party which is to be held at the Clarksburg Sportsmen's Club, Peer Dick Harvey, who is in charge of arrangements, has been kept pretty busy keeping key of those attending.

We all welcome back Mamie Guarina to the day shift. She formerly worked on the night shift.

Lucy Cozzaglio, Norman Monette and Don Morin are proud owners of new cars—congratulations.

Loyal McKain has been transferred to Charlie Deconsols room.

We all enjoyed the unveiling of Mary Canty's new ring she received from her husband.

Our sympathy is extended to Lucy Debruin and her family on the death of our infant son.

A Happy Birthday to Lena Deso, Claire Daniels, Jacqueline Daniels, Sylvia Soloman, Barbara Fishman, Doris Apkin, Mary O'Neil, and Judith Fowler.

This year our Christmas party, as usual, was a grand success. Fifty-six members of the department gathered at Petey Disko's for chicken and steak dinners. Everyone enjoyed Pauline McNamee's music at the piano. Nancy Davis and Buddy Gofl did a specialty dance entitled "The Mechanical Man" which received a very warm ovation. Plans are now under way for a New Year's party.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry LaBonte are the proud parents of a baby boy which was born recently at their home on Tremont Street.

Block Annex
By Della Keating
The department held a Christmas Party at Petey Disko's and everyone had a wonderful time.

A Happy Birthday to Harriet Conover, Margaret Fitzgerald, Lois Gay and Alice Carpenter.

A happy anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Robert LaFime and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Carpenter.

Our sympathy is extended to the Scarbo family on the death of our former co-worker, Margaret Scarbo. To Mrs. Mears, Mrs. O'Grady on the death of their infant son.

And to the Fi family on the recent death of Mr. Ford.

Second Annual Banquet of Schuyler Lodge 1791 International Association of Machinists
The Schuyler Lodge 1794 of the International Association of Machinists held its Second Annual Banquet on December 9 at the North Adams Sportsmen's Club. Union members and their wives attended and a program of speaking, movies and dancing was enjoyed.

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The Square Ring
By Peter Mancuso

Bob Murphy, the hard hitting southpaw who won over Dick Wagner and Jimmy Bean is rated third in the light heavyweight division.

Doc Williams is still rated by the January issue of the "Ring" as placing seventh.

Lee Oma who is fighting Ezzard Charles for the title is rated fifth in the heavyweight class. Charks will still be champ.

There is a law being put through that fighters use headgears in the ring. I do not think that this will go over too well with the fighter fans.

Yes, a continuous bashing on the head will get you "punch drunk" and wearing a headguard, the fighter will have protection.

Our present ring laws and the alertness of the referee who is in the ring before the fighters receive one too much punishment.

Everyone is telling Joe Louis to quit the fight game, but I guess that Joe wants to get another crack at the title before he leaves boxing for good.

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