

# CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS FROM KING'S COUNTY

## King Richard's Christmas Feasts

Once upon a medieval Yuletide, King Richard III of England celebrated at Litchfield—and during the festivities 2,000 oxen and 200 tons of wine were consumed. Of course, the feudal set-up

provided the great lords with the wherewithal for magnificence—the lords received gifts from their tenants and kings received gifts from their nobles; and the graduated scale for giving and receiving was

as well ascertained as the quiddam honorarium of any barrister or physician. Queen Elizabeth received a large part of her wardrobe as gifts from her courtiers, and if the quality or quantity were not satisfactory, the donors were unceremoniously informed of the situation.

When Henry III entertained a thousand knights, peers, and assorted nobles who came to attend the Yuletide marriage of the Princess Margaret, His Majesty received a royal Christmas gift of 2,700 pounds, plus 600 fat oxen from the Archbishop of York.

With similar assistance, whether exhorted or given in the spirit of generosity appropriate to the season, His Majesty could well afford to give Christmas feasts for the poor like the one given in Westminster Hall in 1248, which lasted a week.

Striving to outdo his predecessors and give his successors something to shoot at, Henry VIII kept one Yuletide at which the cost of gold cloth that was used amounted to 600 pounds alone. He had tents erected and artificial gardens plotted within the spacious hall of the tents to joust in tournaments covered from head to foot with gay ribbon streamers, emerged from the gardens to entertain the guests.

Preparation for the feasting on such occasions is perfectly appalling to spectators of the 20th century—and can only be vaguely comprehended by considering that Richard II normally employed 2,000 cooks to prepare food for the 10,000 persons who dined—irrespective of special feasting—at his expense every day.

Most of us could not find sufficient space to hold all the Christmas cards we receive during a period of years, but Mr. Jonathan King was a collector of Christmas cards—his own and other people's. In 1894, he is supposed to have had a collection of about 163,000 cards, which he collated in 700 separate volumes, weighing between six and seven tons!

## BEST WISHES of the season

To our friends and patrons—  
May your days be filled with notes of good cheer ... for the holiday and coming year!

McGowan Motors

MONTAGUE



## Glad Tidings

... of the most Merry Christmas within your memory! May all good things be yours — now and for the bright New Year.

**HILCHEY & VANIDERSTINE**  
Furniture — Self Service Groceries

Montague

Phone 80



A MERRY YULETIDE

## SEASON'S GREETINGS



With the keenest appreciation of your good will and your patronage — with a sincerely repeated pledge to serve you well during the year to come — we send you our merriest holiday greetings.

## MacLeod and Greene

Heating & Plumbing

MONTAGUE

## CHRISTMAS

From us to you — and you — and you. May this holiday season be a truly wonderful one!

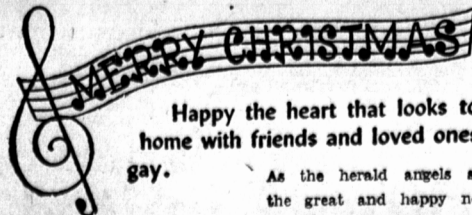
MONTAGUE

5c to \$1.00 Store

H. B. MURRAY, Proprietor



GREETINGS



Happy the heart that looks to home with friends and loved ones gay.

As the herald angels sing the great and happy news of Christmas once more, may your heart be filled with glowing peace. May the coming year be one of good health and achievement.

**McGowan's Ltd.**  
MERCHANTS  
KILMUIR

## He'll Be Leaving Pretty Soon

... with all kinds of gifts for nice folks, and with our most sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas.

**FRED VUOZZO**  
Barber Shop  
MONTAGUE



## A Happy Yuletide

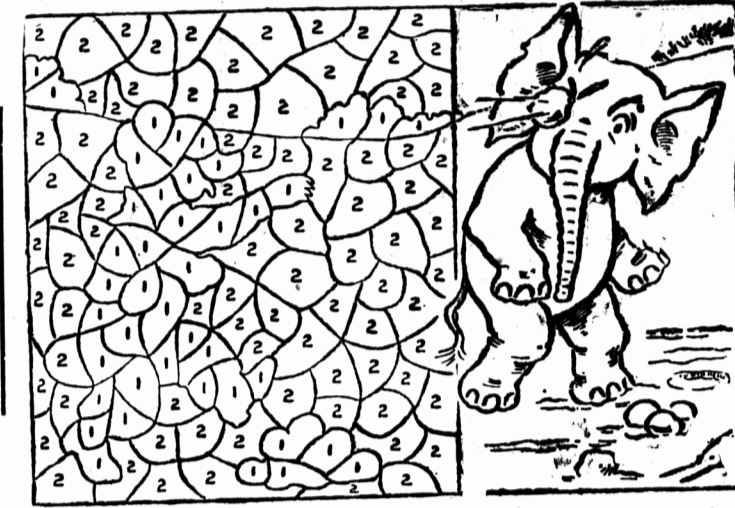
Our greeting is an old one, but Christmas is a time for old songs, old wishes and old friends. So may we say, Happy Holiday.

**Montague Garage**  
MONTAGUE



**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR FRIENDS**  
**DUVAR'S**  
Radio Service  
MONTAGUE

## Who Threw That Snowball?



If you black out all the pieces numbered "2", you will find the culprit.

## What Does Christmas Mean?

—By—  
L. A. G. Strong

One fact about Christmas is so obvious that it gets little attention. Although the festival is at the very heart of the Christian faith, it is observed by people who hold other faiths, and by many who hold no faith at all. Nine people out of every ten accept the holiday, exchange gifts and other symbols of goodwill, hold a feast, and feel amiable towards the world.

The festival of Christmas has a unique appeal. Even the few who pretend to be Scrooges, and complain that all this goodwill and giving of presents is artificial and insincere, are indirectly acknowledging its power.

### Good, But Not Good Enough

We cannot go far wrong in assuming the goodness of anything which produces such widespread good results, which suspends animosities and quarrels. (Do you

remember that Christmas truces in 1914, when in spite of the commanders on both sides, British and German, came out of their trenches unarmed, and exchanged cigarettes and greetings?) Any anniversary which brings about so much happiness, which enables so much affection to express itself, and which finally is the festival of the children, is sound and sweet and blessed.

But this is not enough. It is easy to give presents to our friends and to beam with what is sometimes little more than boozey goodwill at the world in general. The material benefits of Christmas are substantial, but they have not been enough to establish peace on earth, or even to make goodwill last more than a few hours at a time. This feast in which unbelievers share has not made belief habitual. Officially a Christian country, Britain, for example, cannot be said to reflect undimmed the light of Christian principles.

### Christians And Others Agree Here

I put the matter in this way in order not to offend great numbers of people who lead good and useful and thoughtful lives without holding to Christianity or to any formal creed. A point on which all men of goodwill can agree, whether they are Buddhists, Confucians, Hindus, agnostics, or nothing at all, is that the world would be a better place if the ethical principles taught by Christianity (and by other faiths as well) were put into practice. Even an old-fashioned materialist can agree to this proposition, since Christmas, observed almost everywhere, produces obvious, if short-lived, material benefits.

Let us go on, therefore, to ask a question which the materialist can share our interest. How can we increase these material

benefits of Christmas? Can we do anything to ensure that they last twice, three times, four times as long? Is there any way of deepening and strengthening their effect?

### Each Must Decide

I make no apology for putting the question in this form, since, whether he likes it or not, Christmas is a festival which the Christian shares with the non-Christian. Christmas concerns all those who are susceptible as anyone to the effects of kindness, love, goodwill, gentleness, and other Christian virtues—and are no less liable to possess them. We all admit that kindness is better than hostility, love than hatred, goodwill than malice, gentleness than cruelty. Anything which strengthens and extends the qualities that help the world is to that extent good, and the whole world is interested in its maintenance.

It is a further truism that most of us agree about ends, but differ passionately as to the best way to realize them. In answering such a question, therefore, each of us must speak for himself.

### What Life Has Taught Me

If life has taught me anything at all, it is that spirit is the ultimate reality. I do not mean that the material world is not real. Its reality is grim and compelling: it is the theatre in which spirit is manifested. You and I may be immortal spirits, but we can only know each other in and through our material bodies, here and now. These material facts are the conditions of our incarnation, and we have to accept them. Yet it is the spirit which moves us and gives us our being.

It is, then, the spirit of Christmas which needs to be more fully and durably made manifest. We ought so to live that the goodwill of Christmas ceases to be a seasonal phenomenon and lasts the whole year through. The exceptional needs to become the usual. Christmas symbolises a miraculous birth. To any man, whatever his belief, is given the chance to be born again. All can break free of the chain of heredity and habit, given a stimulus, an intervention. The Christian interprets this truth specially for himself, but it holds good for everyone.

The year which is ending has given a fresh start for Britain and the Commonwealth; a coronation.

## The Holy Thorn Of Glastonbury

In honor of the Hawthorn, which legendarily shielded Christ while He rested in the woods before the crucifixion, Joseph of Arimathea chose a thorn staff when he started on his long journey to Britain shortly after the death of Christ. Arriving at last at his new home in Glastonbury, Joseph stuck his walking stick into the ground; the staff began to grow and soon acquired the habit of producing flowers each Christmas Eve.

The first literary mention of the thorn is contained in Hearne's History and Antiquities of Glastonbury, published in 1722. In this work, Mr. Eyston states: "Whether it sprang from St. Joseph of Arimathea's dry staff, I cannot find, but beyond all dispute it sprang up miraculously." When Britain adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1753, 2,000 persons assembled at Glastonbury on December 25—new style—to see if the Holy Thorn would bloom in agreement with the new calendar; when it did not, many refused to participate in the usual observances of Christmas. The evil of changing calendars was proven when the thorn blossomed on January 3—Christmas Eve—old style—and many ministers in the vicinity of Glastonbury appeared their congregations by announcing that Christmas would be observed according to the old calendar.

In the Middle Ages it became customary to pluck a bloom from the revered tree when royalty came near, and present the flower in a silver box.

A cutting of the Glastonbury thorn was brought to America in 1900 and planted near St. Alban's school in Washington, D.C., by the late Right Rev. Henry Gates Satterlee, blossoming for the first time in December, 1918; since then, it has blossomed each year at Christmas-time and attracts thousands of visitors annually.

According to Canon Charles Martin, headmaster of St. Alban's

the birth of a new era. If December can reinforce the goodwill of June, if Christmas can seal and confirm what was then so splendidly and happily begun, then there are real hopes of what so many desire. The year 1953 may originate a new age in which the spirit of Christmas shall shine as never before.



## Greetings

True Christmas joy comes from within the heart — may yours be light and filled with happiness this Christmas — May the new year be bright and full of accomplishment.

**VERE BECK and SON LTD.**

Montague & Charlottetown



## A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

from  
**REDMOND EXPORTS LTD.**  
Water St. Georgetown

Best Wishes of the seasons to our friends and patrons.  
**Mr. & Mrs. John P. MacDonald**  
GEORGETOWN



It is an old happy custom and it warms the hearts of giver and receiver — so we are happy to wish you the merriest of all Christmases and a Happy New Year

**MacPHERSON'S DRESS SHOPPE**  
MONTAGUE

## BEST WISHES

Good health and prosperity ... all of God's bountiful blessings be upon you in the Christmas season and in the new year to come.

**BELL'S**  
Service Station  
MONTAGUE



## SEASON'S GREETINGS

Heaps of it! Food, gifts, love and laughter — all the things it takes to make Christmas the day of family rejoicing we all love to make it.

**C. R. BOEHRER**  
JEWELLER  
Montague

## Away In A Manger

The Stable of Bethlehem did not in any way resemble the airy porticos — complete with plaster of paris animals and adoring shepherds — so dear to the heart of modern Christendom.

With comfort increasing throughout the western world, the poverty of the Nativity scene simultaneously startles and fascinates us — as perhaps Matthew, the publican, was impressed by the story of the Wise Men; and St. Luke, who had been a ship's doctor and probably knew very little about shepherds, was charmed by the shepherds abiding in the field.

There was no room in the inn that night so Jesus was born in a stable; a place of shelter hewn into a rocky ledge of the Judean countryside. It was cold and dark and damp, and Judean travellers frequently "put up" in such caves — welcomed rather than disdained joint tenancy with beasts because the breath for the cattle and the heat of their bodies provided a little warmth, while the guests inside the inn had no heat at all.

The cave, which was the birthplace of the Saviour, is now a grotto beneath Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity; and though fascinated by the simplicity of the original Nativity scene, Christianity has been unwilling to maintain its poverty and has covered the entire surface with costly ornamentation.

School at Washington Cathedral, the cathedral thorn has also been known to bloom when royalty visited Washington.

In November, when the Princess Elizabeth visited Washington, the tree put forth four blossoms. One bloom from the famous thorn was presented to the Princess in a tiny silver box.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
P. L. BOUDREAULT  
General Merchant  
Main Street  
GEORGETOWN



To all of you we have so pleasingly served.

## A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

**RAY'S GROCERIA**

Corner — Grafton and Victoria Streets  
Georgetown

## Noel



## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Gifts and toys to suit everybody.

**F. J. DELORY & SONS**  
General Merchants  
Water Street Georgetown



**William S. Martell**  
Canner of fish products — dealer in fishermen's supplies.  
Best grades of hard and soft coal.  
Water Street Georgetown