Santa's gifts checked by toy-testing factory

GLASGOW, Mo. (AP) — Several generations of children in this little Missouri River town have pondered the mystery: Is Santa Claus Jimmy Kuhn, or is Jimmy Kuhn Santa Claus?

Winter and summer, Jimmy Kuhn looks, acts and lives the role of Santa. His deep, hearty voice is in true Santa style. His 300 pounds are distributed in just the right proportions over his 5-foot-8 frame. His 50-inch waist needs no padding. And his beard is real.

30-YEAR VETERAN

In 1931, Kuhn showed up at a school Christmas program in Santa garb. He was such a success that he has been playing the role ever since.

Now 59, Kuhn will hitch up his midget "reindeer mules" again this December at his 50-acre apple orchard farm and set out to visit the children of nearby communities. If there happens to be no snow, he will attach small wheels to the sleigh.

He will talk and listen to all the young ones, and distribute candy or toys supplied by civic organizations. Kuhn will also answer 200 to 300 letters to Santa, writing them in longhand and embroidering them with real incidents.

PUT TO THE TEST

During his 30 seasons, Kuhn has been tested by many alert youngsters, and he has learned many a lesson. He quickly discovered that it was best never to make promises or tell fibs. While he was still green, a girl asked him about a little red wagon she had received the previous year.

"Yes," said the unwary Kuhn, "I remember that little red wagon."

"Hah," said the girl. "I tricked you. I didn't get no little red wagon."

Now Kuhn professes a bad memory and only a hazy view of the future. "We will see what we can do," he says.

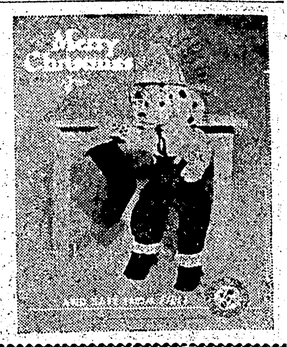
Kuhn does not claim to be Santa or a Santa helper, nor does he deny it. But he dresses in a Santa suit, one of five which Mrs. Kuhn has made for him from red velvet. Each cost about $100.

Father of seven, and grandfather of 11, Kuhn knows children well. And he acts like Santa Claus throughout the year. He hands out candy all year long, or nickels to youngsters who catch him without a supply of candy.

In addition to tending his apple orchard, Kuhn also works as a security officer in a local factory. But his favorite job is dispensing good cheer.

Norway prepares

In Norway preparations for Christmas traditionally start six months before December 24. The Christmas celebration itself lasts three weeks. The period, according to Book of Knowledge researchers, is known as the Julafred, or the Peace of Christmas.



CARDS EXPRESS SENTIMENTS MERRY, FRIENDLY, REVERENT

Friendly, merry, reverent, grateful—Christmas sentiments find expression at the holiday season.

Just when the sending of greeting cards first began is a question that may never be settled, especially since it is always possible that early examples of printed Christmas greetings are waiting to be found among private books and papers.

The Cole-Horsley card is considered by many to be the first published Christmas card. It was designed in Britain in 1843 by John Calcott Horsley a well-known artist of the period, for Sir Henry Cole, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The card bears the now-universal greeting, "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You." It shows a joyous family seated at Christmas dinner.

A copy of the card, discovered in England in recent years by a representative of Hallmark, is now part of the Hallmark Historic Collection, housed at the greeting car company's headquarters in Kansas City, Mo.

Louis Prang of Boston, an art-loving lithographer, published the best known early Christmas greetings in the U.S. He conducted art and literary competitions for greeting card material, and published cards of outstanding high quality.

MORE THAN 50 prize winning dolls from the Pacific National Exhibition will go to the Children's Hospital, and the Province Stocking Fund. The dolls are from all over the Pacific North West and were entered in the doll dressing contest, sponsored by T. Eaton Company Limited, at the 1961 fair. The contest has been running for several years in the Home Arts Show. Here, preparing them for shipment for Christmas are, Mrs. H. H. Steen, Director of Home Arts, and Mr. Thomas R. Fyfe, PNE President.

New Zealanders want Xmas change

AUCKLAND (AP)— The usual protests have been launched in New Zealand against the habit of closing down almost all aspects of national life for three weeks at Christmas. As usual, people go right on with the three-week siege.

Several factors make the annual holiday shutdown tighter and more concentrated in New Zealand than in most other countries.

The summer holidays fall at the Christmas-New Year's period and schools close for the long vacation early in December.

What Wise Men did

Tradition says that the Three Wise Men, after returning to their kingdoms from Bethlehem, gave up their property to the poor, and went out to preach the gospel of Christianity.

PRESERVE TASTE

To maintain a good - tasting turkey - remove stuffing after dinner and store separately in the refrigerator.

FOR VARIETY

For a different supper dish, bacon and chopped egg in hot potato salad go well with cold meats.

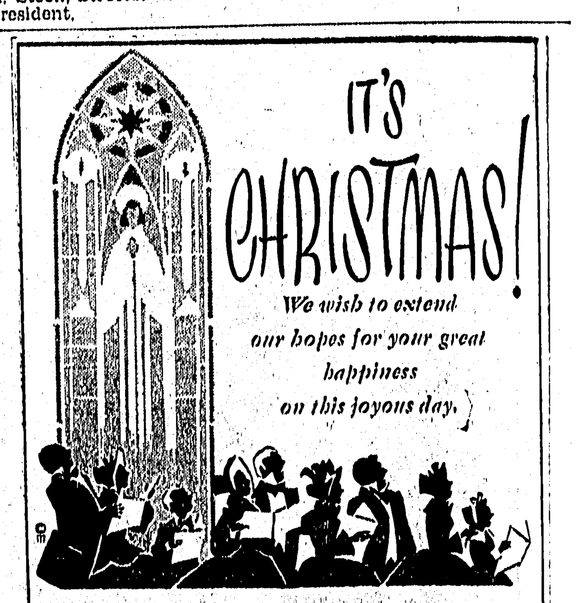
Merry Christmas
We sing out our Christmas greeting to you.
Miller's Cigar Store
Alice and Paul Hawkins

GREER & BRIDDEN LTD.

Hearty Christmas Greetings
May Santa's pack be filled with happiness!
CITY TRANSFER (1960) Ltd.
MANAGEMENT and STAFF

Blessings of Christmas
Hearty Thanks for Your Patronage
MANAGEMENT—B.C. CLOTHIERS

VENTURE SASH
MANAGEMENT and STAFF


IT'S CHRISTMAS!
We wish to extend our hopes for your great happiness on this joyous day.
MANAGEMENT and STAFF
OVERWAITEA FOODS

WARM WISHES FOR A Bright Christmas
Rupert Cleaners
MANAGEMENT & STAFF

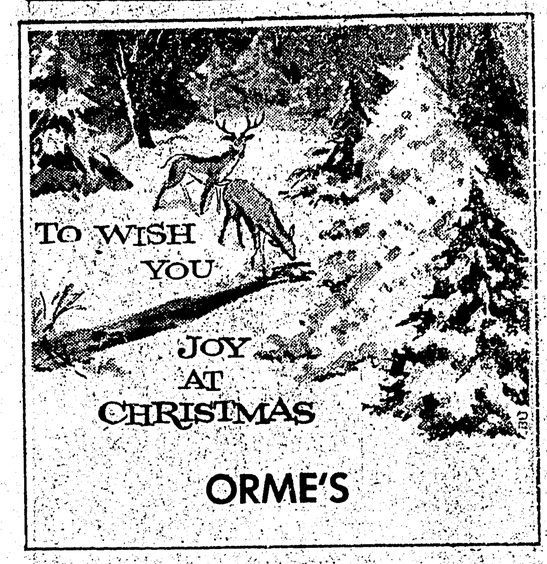
Peace and joy to you and your loved ones during this glorious season.
LANGFORD PHARMACY
MANAGEMENT and STAFF

Greetings
and Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas.
MANAGEMENT and STAFF
Simpson-Sears Ltd.
PRINCE RUPERT

Greetings
...and our heartfelt gratitude for your kind friendship and patronage during the year.
HOWE & McNULTY

BEST CHRISTMAS WISHES TO ALL OUR FRIENDS.
George Hill & Sons Ltd.
ALF and DAVE

MERRY CHRISTMAS
Best wishes for a day filled with happiness.
Kaien Industries


TO WISH YOU
JOY AT CHRISTMAS
ORME'S

Christmas Greetings
from all of us to all of you!
Broadway Cafe
MANAGEMENT and STAFF

Let glad tidings ring out this Joyous Christmas!
99 TAXI MANAGEMENT

Merry Christmas
...and many thanks to all you wonderful people whose friendship has been so heartwarming during the year.
SMITH & ELKIN'S LTD.
MANAGEMENT and STAFF