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Merry Christmas



Although it is an old newspaper custom to offer an inspirational Christmas message at this time, we feel inclined to make our words few and personal.

The fact is that our family of readers is not so large that it has become a crowd of strangers. We can still regard the newspaper as a sort of daily letter to each member and can be sure of quick and definite opinions in return.

So let's keep it on that level and eliminate the Christmas oration. In its place, we would like to thank you for your interest and to express the hope that your Christmas will be everything you wish.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

We may have no Canadian flag, no national anthem that we know well enough to sing, and no distinctive Canadian culture, comments the Farmers' Advocate, but we do have the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Musical Ride.

MONSTER RACKET

What plenty of hard boiled folks call the Yuletide nuisance started in London away back in 1842. It was not until 1875 the idea hit this side of the Atlantic and 25 years ago it became a racket. Today it is estimated three billion Christmas cards are exchanged by the people of this continent.

The Belgian wives who sailed in Canadian vessels dressed as men say they rather like wearing men's clothes. But then, hundreds of Canadian wives are already wearing the pants.

The best cure for the body is to quiet the mind—Napoleon.

The average gambler never worries about dying broke. Practically, that's the way he lives.

The reason it's so hard to believe that all men are created equal is that it isn't true.

PERHAPS!

Wonder if seagulls are possibly "sensing" it is Christmas time? Wednesday, as the Prince George

loomed through the mist and moisture, and her distant whistle sounded, the birds, looking so clean, so wet and so spotless, multiplied swiftly. There must have been a hundred sitting in an orderly row on the edge of the CN dock overlooking the harbor. The gulls seemed everywhere—perched on warehouse roofs, filling the salty air, flying and flapping as they inspected the big boat.

UNHEARD OF NOW!

There used to be a time when any one who managed to save money was called a miser, but you don't hear it today. And you don't hear the word "wonder" at all. As a matter of fact, no one is called anything. There is what amounts to a perfect silence.

It was in 1945 the first atomic destruction of a city took place in Japan. It was frightful—we thought. Tuesday last, President Eisenhower in his radio address said the destruction today would be 25 times worse. Well, Old Timer, how about it?

Honors Hero

DEVONPORT, England (CP)—This ancient seaport will name a street after Lieut. Philip Curtis, posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry in the Korean war.

Report From

PARLIAMENT

E. T. APPLEWHITE

I am sure many people in Prince Rupert, particularly among the old-timers, will be joining with many of us down here in regretting the death of Mrs. Simmons, mother of George Simmons, the pioneer Yukon aviator and of Anbrey Simmons, MP for the Yukon. "Ma" Simmons as she was affectionately known by thousands was one of the real pioneer women of the Yukon. There are not too many of her contemporaries left alive today—but there are many who have met her and who knew her wonderful personality. The passing of "Ma Simmons of the Yukon" is the closing of another chapter of the history of Canada.

Things are moving along slowly towards the opening of a post office at Old Masset. My understanding is that the Haida Co-operative is building a new store and that seems to be the logical place for the new post office, so I am trying to work with a view to having the post office ready to be opened at the same time as the new store is opened.

The re-opening of the Metlakatla post office is a different matter. There we were all ready to go ahead, but the Department has not been able to get any bids which it considers reasonable, for the transporting of the mail to and from Metlakatla. However, I am assured that efforts will continue to be made to obtain such an offer, and if they are successful, Metlakatla post office will be re-opened.

In these days when so much talking is done about trade, one sometimes wonders why industry doesn't do more for itself.

For instance, Detroit, fifth city of the U.S. in size, has nearly 3.1 million people living within its metropolitan area—and it is right on the Canadian border. Our Canadian Consul and Trade Commissioner in Detroit, drawing on his experience in several U.S. ports, makes suggestions as to how Canadian manufacturers can make trial of the U.S. market—and he recommends that Michigan and Ohio are promising areas in which to go prospecting.

Why do the 160 million Americans buy less from Canada than the 15 million Canadians buy from the United States? I

See Report Page 7

Steve and Nancy Santa Claus



The story so far: Santa Claus has just returned Steve and Nancy to their homes. They have been helping him at the North Pole.

Steve and Nancy were asleep, such a deep and peaceful sleep. They both had smiles on their faces for they were dreaming sweet dreams.

The sun had been up a long time before they awoke and when they did they found they were in bed. Steve stretched his arms and looked around. Why, he was in his own bed at home. He looked over at Nancy. She was just waking up.

"Why, Steve," she said. "We're home."

"You mean that you thought you had been away from home, too?" Steve said. "Where did you think we'd been?"

"To Santa Claus's house, of course," Nancy replied. "You were there. Don't you remember?"

"Yes, I remember," Steve said, "but are you sure we really were there?"

"I think so," said Nancy. "It seems so very real."

"Do you remember the telephone tree and the big office that Santa let us use?" Steve asked.

"Yes, I do," Nancy said. "You know, if it was a dream, it was the nicest dream I've ever had and the queerest, too, 'cause you had the same dream as I did."

"Say, that's right," Steve said, jumping out of bed.

The whole world seemed white and sparkling. And it seemed all the whiter because few white snow flakes were falling, through the sky.

This white new world took Steve's mind away from the events of the night before for a moment, so that when he looked outside, down below the window he did not realize at once what it was he was seeing. But in a flash the memory of it came flooding back.

"Nancy," he shouted, "see that, below the window."

And sure enough, as Nancy looked down she saw it, too. For in the snow, just being covered by the new flakes, were three sets of footprints, leading from the window around the corner of the house.

There were two sets of small prints, made by children's feet, and right between the two sets of small footprints was a set of big, heavy prints, made by long,

pointed shoes. "See there, the footprints," Steve said in excitement. "They prove that Santa Claus was here last night and took us away with him."

"Yes, you're right," Nancy agreed.

And as they watched, the falling snowflakes slowly filled in the prints in the snow until in a few moments they were gone and the lawn outside was flat and white once more.

Turning from the window, Steve said to his sister "I guess we'll never be able to make anyone else believe that we really went to the North Pole with Santa Claus, but we really did."

"Yes, we did," Nancy replied, as she started to put on her clothes.

The End.

Try Daily News Classified

Fred E. Dowdie

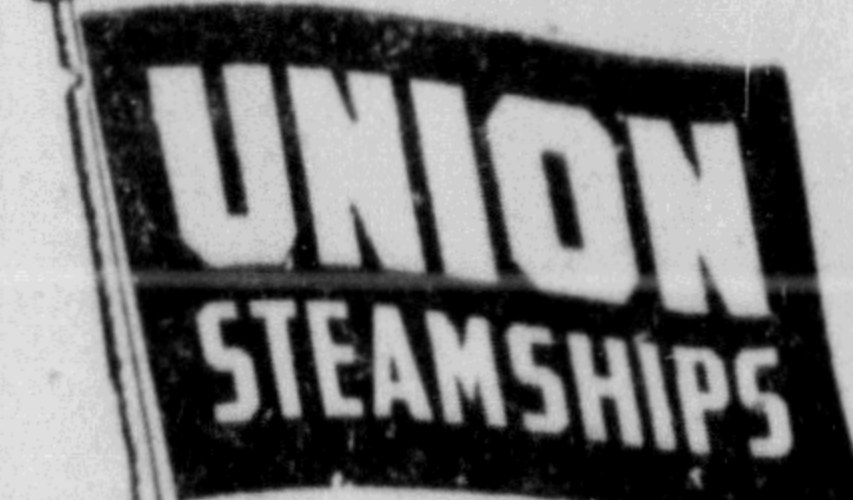
OPTIC/METRIST

New address: 303 3rd Ave. W  
Phone Green 960

Gunman Nabbed For Holding-Up City Detective

VANCOUVER (CP)—Lloyd Yeo, 32, who was arrested late Sunday after holding city detective Barney Du Hamel at gun point for more than an hour, has been charged with possession of an offensive weapon.

Police said Du Hamel talked him into giving up the gun after the man had fired several shots into the ceiling.



To VANCOUVER via Waypoints

FRIDAYS: SS CAMOSUN, 8 p.m.

SUNDAYS: SS Coquitlam, 8 p.m.

To Stewart and Alice Arm Coquitlam, Saturday, 6 a.m.

To North Queen Charlotte Islands Dec. 16 and 30

Camosun, Thursday 6 a.m.

To South Queen Charlotte Islands Dec. 9 and 23

Camosun, Thursday 6 a.m.

LES SMITH

Prince Rupert Agent

511 3rd Ave. Phone 568

TO EVERYONE IN SKEENA

BEST WISHES

for a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR

TED APPLEWHITE,

M.P. FOR SKEENA.



HISTORIC CAPITAL  
Moscow, founded in 1147, became the religious capital of Russia in the 14th century.

HUMBLE START  
Willard Fillmore, United States president who died in 1874, was apprenticed to a dyer in youth.



RUPERT RADIO & ELECTRIC



W. H. MALKIN CO. LIMITED



Christmas WISHES

A wealth of health, happiness and contentment are our wishes for all our friends and neighbors on this most joyous holiday.

KNUTSON'S TIRE SALES & SERVICE

Merry Christmas ahead



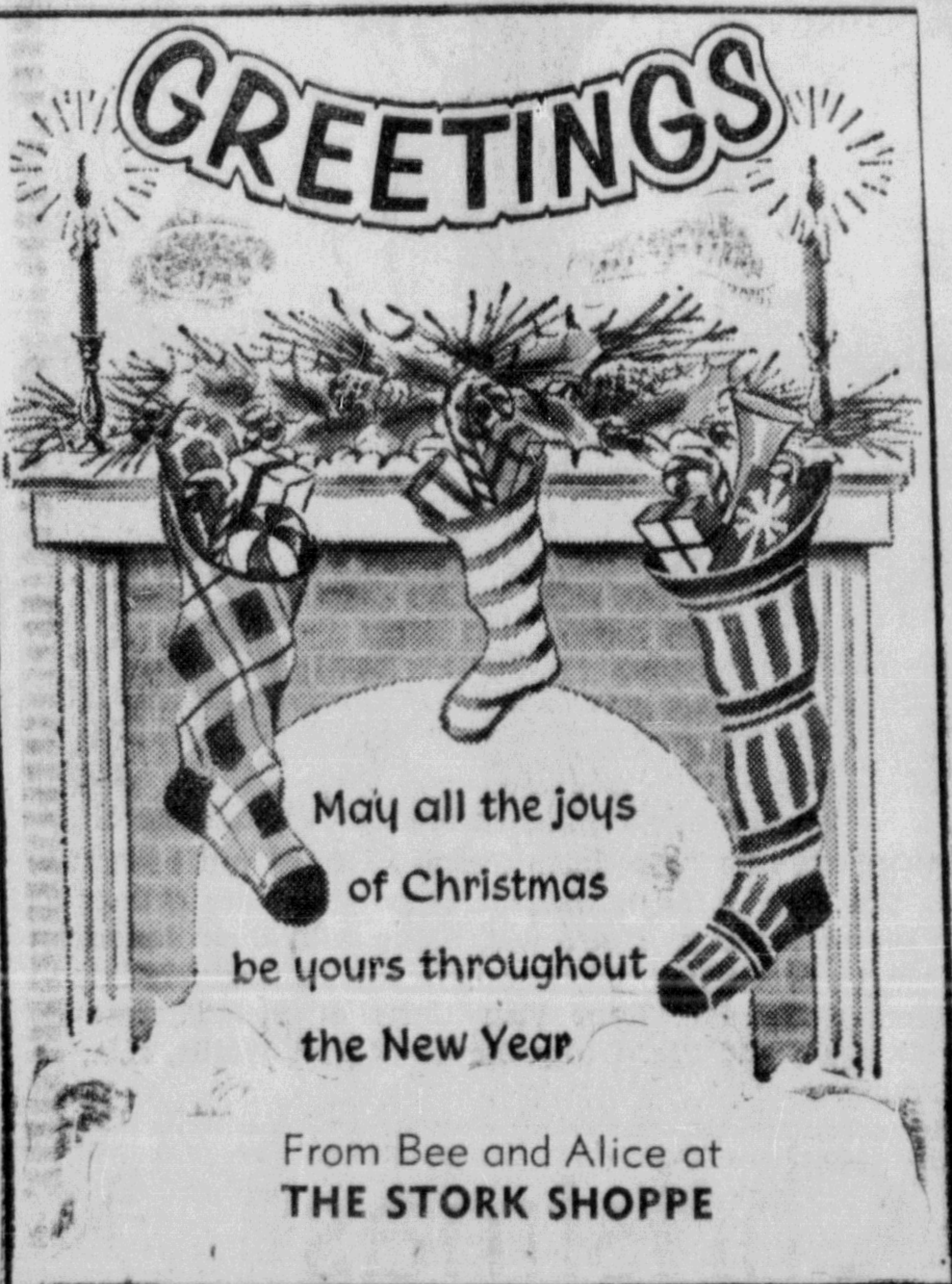
It looks like it's going to be the happiest

holiday ever—filled with the pleasures that only

the Yuletide season can bring... a deep down glad spirit, warm and loving hearts.

May you enjoy this Christmas with unlimited good health and good spirit.

★  
from your  
**DAILY NEWS PAPER BOY**  
WITH SINCERE  
**BEST WISHES**  
FOR A  
**HAPPY and PROSPEROUS**  
**1954**



From Bee and Alice at THE STORK SHOPPE