

## Levelling-Off Period Seen In U.S. Despite Boom

**By L. A. BROPHY**  
NEW YORK (AP)—The United States economy is nearing the end of a super-colossal year. The years of long boom scaled the heights in 1953. Outpouring of goods and services topped all records. So did national income and employment.  
So, what do the legion of business seers, professional and amateur, see ahead for the new year?  
"Levelling off" is a pet expression of many. They see a return to more normal business conditions; a possible drop in production, maybe five per cent. Here are some of the reasons for a gentle decline is seen:  
• Production has caught up with demand.  
• Government spending has slowed and is declining.  
• Lay-offs are cropping up in many industries.  
• It's getting much tougher to sell things.  
• The rate of production of basic industry, steel, is declining.  
• Why will there be no abrupt change? Here are a few reasons:  
• Individual income taxes will be cut by 10 per cent in January. That means more

## London Daily Given "Blast" By Housewife

LONDON (CP)—A British Columbia housewife, stung by "lurid and rather old-fashioned descriptions" of the Canadian North in the British press, has replied with a verbal broadside.  
Mrs. Frank Goodman of Dollarton, B.C., fired off her letter to a London newspaper in answer to recent highly-colored descriptions of Canadian communities published in connection with the Duke of Edinburgh's projected visit to Canada next summer.  
"There are multi-million-dollar hydro-electric developments both in the Northwest Territories and in the Yukon," Mrs. Goodman wrote to The Daily Mail. "The people who man these projects . . . live in very good houses or in five- and seven-roomed apartments, all electrically heated."  
"They are not isolated any more. They use small planes to get about much as a Londoner would use a taxi."  
**HISTORIC BATHS**  
Remains of Roman baths with walls five feet thick were found in 1948 at Canterbury, England.

## NO HEAT WAVE NECESSARY TO FRY EGGS ON SIDEWALK

NEW YORK (AP)—You gentlemen who have been getting your pictures in the papers for years by frying eggs on a pavement on the hottest day of the year—tip your hats to Adnan Tarcici.  
An Arab adviser at the United Nations, Tarcici fried eggs Thursday in 26-degree temperature, using only heat from the sun. His demonstration took place in Central Park.  
He used a contraption of his own devising—a solar cooker. It is a highly polished aluminum bowl which catches the sun's rays and concentrates their heat on the frying pan.  
It took him 20 minutes to fry two eggs.

## Oldest Building Found in Egypt

CAIRO (Reuters)—Egypt has announced the discovery of the oldest dressed-stone building in the world, a pyramid dating back some 6,500 years.  
The discovery was made by Dr. Zakaria Goneim, 40, an archaeologist of the Egyptian department of antiquities, at Sakkara, 16 miles south of Cairo.  
The pyramid belongs to the second dynasty of Egyptian pharaohs. Hitherto the nearby pyramid of King Zoser of the third dynasty was always considered to have been the oldest dressed-stone pyramid.  
The outside tomb which Zoser had built for himself is 200 feet high and is graduated in a series of deep steps.



money for many people to spend.  
• Consumers are well heeled. It's up to business by better salesmanship and the development of more attractive products to go out and get it. The public has \$24,000,000,000 in mutual savings banks alone. That's \$1,800,000,000 more than a year ago.  
• Business will continue to spend record sums for new plants and equipment in the first quarter of 1954.  
Government economists generally incline to the opinion that 1954 will be a mighty prosperous year.  
The unions seem to be apprehensive. The CIO at its Cleveland meeting earlier this year said business is confronted with a major change in direction and called that change downward.  
However, adding up the bad with the good predictions any way you want to, you will find the general thought is that 1954 will not hit the levels of 1953, but it will be a good year.

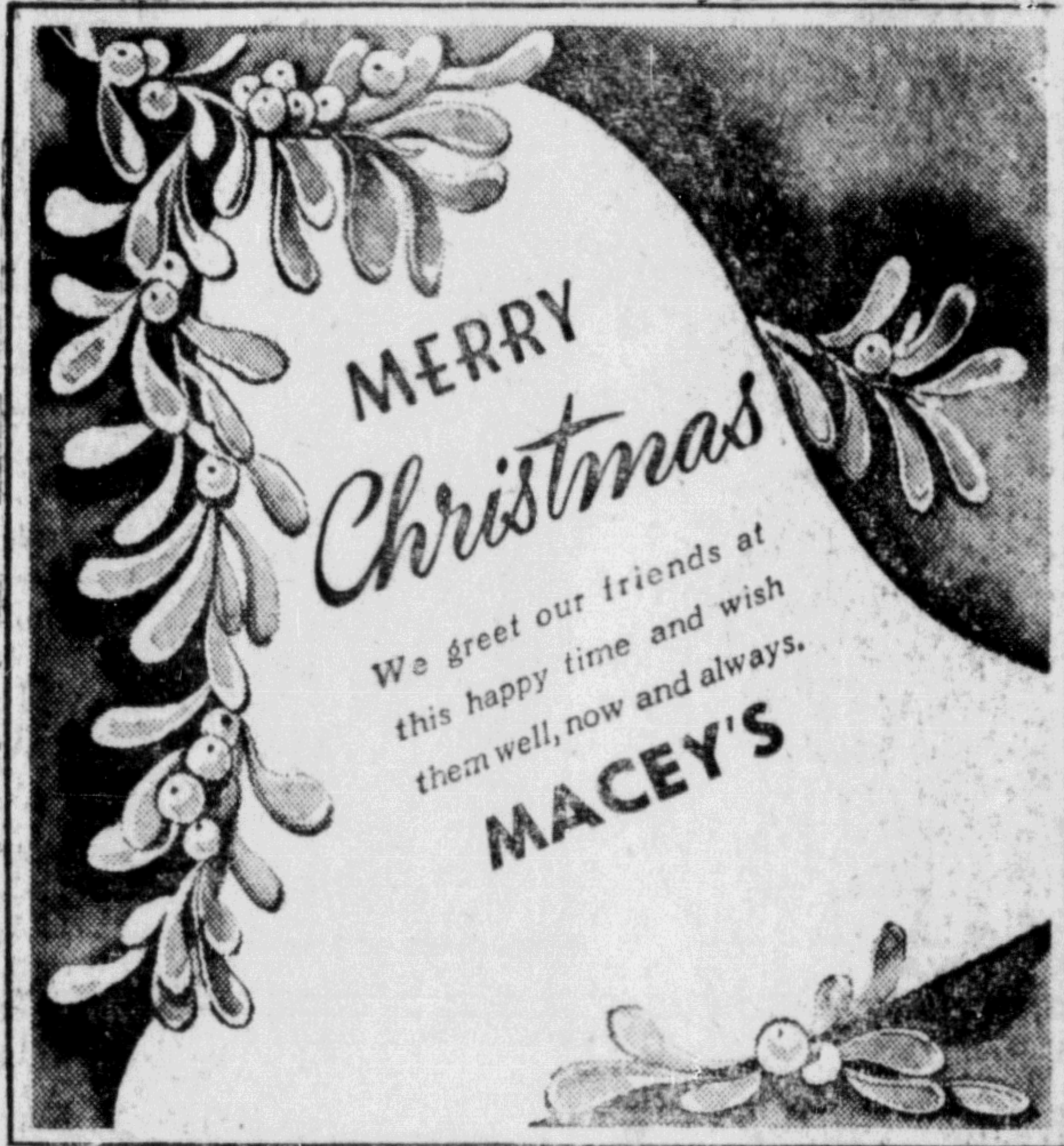
**Irate Driver**  
LEEDS, England (CP)—Bus conductor Xavene Arratoon, 20, lost his temper with two passengers and offered them his equipment if they thought they could do the job better. Arratoon then caught another bus back to his depot to resign.

**Friends For Oldsters**  
OSLO (CP)—Foster families for the aged is a new plan being launched by the Oslo chapter of the Norwegian Folk Relief Society. The idea is to visit the aged or invite them to private homes, thus helping to keep up their spirits.

## Discarded Items Used To Make Yuletide Gifts

REGINA (CP)—With used flash sticks, firewood, silver foil and nylon stockings, bright-eyed youngsters and grown-ups at a youth centre here are turning out original and attractive Christmas gifts and decorations.  
Persons of all ages have found they can have a lot of fun making their own gifts and ornaments.  
Ordinary sticks of firewood become Yule logs when they are covered with plaster of paris. Spaces are left for candles with the log trimmed and pine cones and miniature Christmas trees.  
Christmas flowers, miniature plants and animals are made from chenille. A bit of crepe paper, an old newspaper and some metal foil becomes a Christmas wreath, or a tree or room decoration. Used flash bulbs and old golf balls, dressed up with paint, become colorful and effective ornaments.  
Hundreds of items are turned out in the centre's craft room each week—figurines, plaques, bookends, pictures painted on glass and flowers. In the advanced craft room, hobbyists put the finishing touches to larger and more intricate work: leather golf club bags, designs on copper and aluminum, lawn ornaments and pieces of furniture.

Lobsters may drift hundreds of miles as spiderlike lobsterling, before settling on the sea bottom



Central Cafe will be CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY for staff holiday. REGULAR HOURS BOXING DAY Open until 3 a.m. New Year's Eve.



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