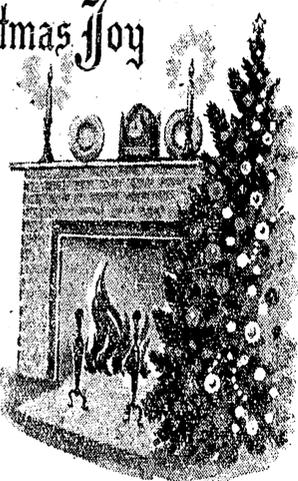


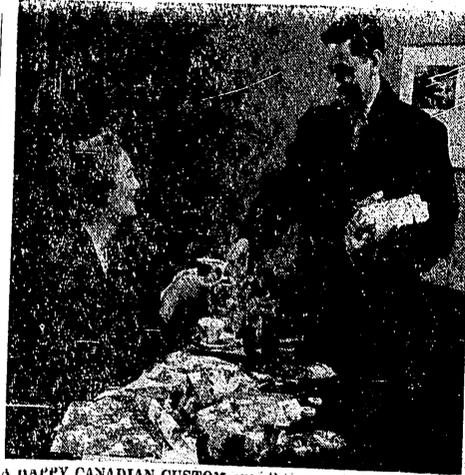
The first general property tax Fort Ticonderoga was built by of old Upper Canada was insti- the French in 1755-56 at the tuted in 1853. southern end of Lake Champlain.

Christmas Joy

May yours be a Holiday Season of fireside warmth and old-fashioned good cheer.



Watts & Nickerson



A HAPPY CANADIAN CUSTOM over the years is that of calling on friends to deliver personally a Christmas or New Year's gift. At many homes the gift bearer is invited in to share a cup of Christmas cheer, before proceeding on his way to the next home on his list. Offered with the best of intentions, too many drinks may transform the genial visitor into a serious traffic hazard and so thoughtful hostesses today are urging their callers to make coffee the "one for the road". A cup of hot coffee, to counteract the effects of even a few small drinks, may be the sincerest thanks a friend can offer to the bearer of gifts during the holiday season. It is also the sign of true friendship and consideration at any holiday party where beverages are being served.

Grade 6 Pupil From Brandon School Paints Cover For Oil Firm Magazine

BRANDON — Two Christmas drawings by a Brandon school boy who likes to draw "just for fun" are the cover illustration for the December issue of the house magazine of a Canadian oil company which goes to 90,000 readers and reaches all parts of the world.

The artist is David Watkin, a Grade 6 pupil in David Livingstone school. The drawing appears on the Imperial Oil Review.

The front cover, in vivid purple and green, shows the star of Bethlehem shining down on the stable with an exultant shepherd in the foreground. The back cover is a rollicking, snow interpretation of Santa Claus' workshop.

competition at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto in 1951 with a mural on the oil industry. Imperial Oil Limited later invited the class to do a cover design for the magazine.

Miss Lundy declined last year because the school program did not permit the project, but this year drawings were submitted by six pupils, and David's work won selection for both covers.

David comes by his ability naturally. His father, Tom Watkins, a hospital employee, sketches well in pencil.

"I draw because it's fun," he said. "When I grow up I'll probably do the same — draw for fun."

Proud of her brother's accomplishment, 13-year-old Marilyn who likes singing better than drawing, said:

"He's always been interested in art. I don't mean just drawing, but all art, making things and nature study. He takes after dad that way."

Miss Lundy said credit for the covers goes to Elizabeth McLeish, former art supervisor at Brandon and now art teacher at the Manitoba normal school in Winnipeg. She started the art program here a few years ago.

There are 23 Canadian Red Cross welfare workers serving our troops in the Far East.

Prevents Mishap

SHARON, Mass. — William Kingsley, 15, glanced up from his homework one night this week to see an auto skid off an icy road and stall on the railroad tracks. Then he heard the New Haven train coming. He darted to the garage, snatched a light from his bicycle and raced to the tracks. The stalled driver, Dr. Vincent P. Ryan, leaped from his car but could not budge it. William stood on the tracks waving the bicycle light. The engineer halted the train and the doctor's car was pulled away and William returned to his studies.

Canadians voluntarily donated 345,069 bottles of blood to the Red Cross in 1953.

Soviet Attitude To West May Harden During '55

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON — Russia may harden its attitude toward the West as early next year, but such a switch would not necessarily reduce the chances which now appear to exist for improving basic contacts between Moscow and the Free World.

It would tend, however, to increase tensions a little and to show more clearly the essentially antagonistic nature of Communist policy toward non-Communist countries.

These views are held by responsible Washington officials, some of them highly placed. The views are speculative, but based on several considerations, including:

1. An assumption that Russia's plugging of "peaceful coexistence" during the last year has been aimed primarily at lulling West European countries into relaxation and thereby blocking the rearmament of West Germany.

2. The reasonable certainty that, despite Russia's efforts, both Germany and France will ratify the pending agreements under which West Germany would be armed and made a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

3. A belief that some degree of hostility toward the outside world is necessary to justify to people under any Red dictatorship the burdens and restraints imposed on them.

Final European action on ratification of the agreements of Germany is expected early next year. After that there may be a Big Four foreign ministers' meeting. French premier Pierre Men-

des-France has suggested one for May.

The Russians have always shown considerable flexibility — even in the days of Stalin, when they were more rigid than they are now. They have used sweet talk and threats alternately to induce other countries to yield to Soviet purposes.

After Stalin died in March, 1953, a peace offensive dating back to the fall of 1952 blossomed into a high-pressure campaign for "peaceful coexistence." There were several possible reasons for this: the new rulers of the government headed by Premier Georgi Malenkov were uncertain of their power. People had been suppressed under Stalin. They wanted some hopes of a better life — some prospects of a more friendly world perhaps. The Kremlin needed time to consolidate the new rule.

But the point which struck Western leaders was that if the Russians could put across the "peaceful coexistence" campaign in Western Europe they might persuade some neutral nations that it would not be necessary to arm West Germany, since there would be no point in increasing force against a Russia which would be friendly.

Last August, the French assembly voted the European Defence Community plan to rearm West Germany. It was a great victory for the Russians, whether or not their campaign had anything to do with it.

At any rate, there is high optimism that the new Western defence plans will not suffer another similar defeat. If the optimism proves justified, some American officials believe the main cause for Russia's campaign will have ceased to exist.

Season's Greetings

Our Holiday wish... may Santa Claus shower you and yours with everything your hearts desire.

Sweet Sixteen LIMITED

Merry Christmas

and good wishes for a happy holiday season

The Management and Staff of the VICTORY CAFE

Season's Greetings

Glad tidings to all our friends and patrons. We wish for the fulfillment of your hopes and prayers, now and always.

Esso Fuel Service
N. R. Stromdahl
Dist 3589 945 10th E.

GREETINGS

The best of everything for you and your family...not only during the Holiday Season, but always...this is our sincere wish.

Prince Rupert Hotel

Season's Greetings

May the light of the Holiday Season shine bright and long upon you and yours; and may its cheerful glow remain with you forever...

Sunrise Grocery

SEASON'S GREETINGS

To all our friends we extend our sincerest wishes for a joyous Holiday Season.

PARKER'S
Exclusive Ladies
Ready-to-Wear

SEASON'S GREETINGS

As you journey through the coming year, we wish you and your loved ones a full measure of all the very best things in life. Merry Christmas!

Silversides Bros.

Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season

Comes Christmas... and warmly we welcome another opportunity to extend best wishes to all our friends and neighbors for a very happy Holiday Season, filled to overflowing with all of the best things in life.

FASHION FOOTWEAR
DOM'S DEPARTMENT STORE
Sec. Dominato
Dom. Dominato