

All Aboard

By G.E. Mortimore

G. E. MORTIMORE
 Christmas my parents
 me a mechanical toy. It
 little tin man in a tin car
 ran down a ramp and up
 ramp in lively fashion.
 the toy, in a way. And
 hurt because my par-
 had given it to me, I was
 then (I forget exactly)

Did they think I was still a little
 boy?
 There were marbles that ran
 along the same channel as the
 tin car, appearing to defy grav-
 ity. Click! Whirr! The tin car
 and the marbles rolled up and
 down. It was a neat gadget, I
 played with it partly to be polite,
 partly for fun.

This was the depth of the de-
 pression. I had no idea then what
 sacrifice it had cost my father to
 feed us through the year and
 make a cheerful Christmas.
 Much later, I heard how he had
 sold the gold case of his watch,
 and all his shotguns, as well as
 a great many other things he
 valued highly.

But now it was Christmas, and
 the world seemed a bright place.
 A schoolmate came to see my
 presents. He was rather a sharp-
 minded lad, older than me. I
 showed him my new football
 and a book. Then he looked over
 toward the table where the
 machine stood.

"What's that?" he asked.
 "Oh, I got it for my birthday
 last July," I lied miserably.
 My schoolmate gave me a patron-
 izing and sceptical grin, and
 left.

I looked toward my father, and
 feverishly began to play with the
 new toy.

"It's fine," I said. "I really like
 it."

He shook his head wearily. "It
 was a clever thing," he said, "and
 I thought it would amuse you.
 But you seem to be too old for
 it."

"No, Dad," I told him. "Honest-
 ly I'm not too old for it. Gosh,
 look at it go."

And I played with that toy,
 off and on, for several weeks,
 until it developed a mechanical
 fault which we meant to cor-
 rect, but somehow never did. The
 toy was laid aside. I wonder
 whether it is still lying in some
 dusty cupboard of my parents'
 house.

That day when I felt ashamed
 of my schoolmate seeing the toy
 was a milestone, I suppose. I
 marked the beginning of the end
 of childhood.

Curiously enough, I would not
 be the least ashamed for my
 schoolmate to see me playing
 with the toy now. I have a little
 son of my own. His grandfather
 will be with us for Christmas. If
 we could find that gadget and
 fix it, the three of us could have
 a rare time making the little
 man in the tin car race up and
 down.

We probably won't find it. But
 there will be new toys. I hope
 the youngster isn't going to be
 selfish about letting us play with
 them.

NO CONFETTI
 WELLINGTON, England (AP)—
 Brides may be fined £1 if
 guests at weddings throw con-
 fetti inside the High Church
 churchyard in this Shropshire
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HOLY NIGHT

1. Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
 2. Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight
 3. Silent night! Holy night! With the dawn of redeeming grace
 Son of God, love's pure light, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
 Radiant beams from Thy holy face, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Protests Flood CBC Headquarters As Writers Chat With Santa Scoffer

VANCOUVER (AP)—Dr. Brock
 Chisholm of Victoria, the psy-
 chiatrist who doesn't believe in
 Santa Claus, dressed up as the
 jolly old fraud for a Thursday
 night television show and the re-
 action was felt from Ottawa to
 Vancouver.

His theory is that children
 should not be disillusioned about
 Santa. They should be told the
 man with the white whiskers is
 an integral part of Christmas
 but only as a Yuletide fable.

Thursday night, his Vanco-

ver-produced television show
 called Press Conference he ex-
 pounded his theory under the
 adroit questioning of Vancouver
 Sun columnist Jack Scott, Van-
 couver Province humorist Eric
 Nicol and Victoria Times pub-
 lisher Stuart Keate. Press Con-
 ference was first shown in On-
 tario Thursday and was to be
 telecast here Christmas Eve.

However, the Canadian Broad-
 casting Corporation in Toronto
 and Ottawa received a definite
 reaction from parents who hadn't

broken the news to junior. The
 (AP) with headquarters in Toronto
 recorded 100 complaining tele-
 phone calls. Other persons tele-
 phoned Ottawa newspapers to
 protest that, coming just before
 Christmas, the subject was ill-
 timed.

Douglas Nixon, regional pro-
 gram director, said in a pre-
 pared statement:

"Press Conference is an inter-
 view and discussion program
 which has been presented each
 week on CBC television for some
 time.

The purpose of the program is
 to bring together people who can
 talk in a stimulating way on
 subjects of topical interest. Dr.
 Brock Chisholm's view on Santa
 Claus have again received wide
 circulation in the press at this
 time of year. So, the CBC brought
 together three well-known west
 coast newspaper people to dis-
 cuss with Dr. Chisholm, various
 aspects of Santa Claus and
 Christmas.

The program provided
 an interesting and entertaining
 exchange of opinions.

Dr. Chisholm is former direc-
 tor of the World Health Organi-
 zation.

The GRAND CAFE
 ANNOUNCES
 "The Grandest in Chinese Dishes"
 QUALITY WITH QUANTITY
 We Specialize in TAKE OUT ORDERS. Phone 3215
 25 2nd Ave. West. Open From 6 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Greetings
 It's Santa Claus time
 again and we want to
 wish everybody the
 merriest Christmas ever,
 thick full of good things!

McKAY'S GROCERY

GREETINGS
 May you enjoy a full
 measure of happiness
 and good health
 this Christmas.

B.C. Clothiers Ltd.
 3rd. Ave. W.

CHRISTMAS Wishes

May the joyous tidings of
 the first Christmas re-echo in your
 heart today and lift your spirit with that
 glorious promise of peace and good will for all.

SUPER SERVICE
 At The Corner of Second and Second —
 Where The Service is
 Second To None



CHRISTMAS CAROLS are sung by Eskimos at Resolute Bay, N.W.T. in honor of visiting crew members of the RCAF's "Operation Santa Claus". The crew flew in supplies to the Arctic outposts. (CP from National Defence)

REAL EXPERT
 MAIDENHEAD, England (AP)—
 Sarah Robins is still an expert
 needleworker at age 97. She
 calls mounting finches on gowns
 worn by Queen Victoria and
 Queen Alexandra when she had
 her own shop in London.

HANDSOME COMPOSER
 Baroness Carolina Nalme,
 Scottish song-writer who died in
 1845 was known as the "flower
 of Bernhearn" because of her
 beauty.

Christmas Wishes
 Fun and Good Cheer
 and Good Health the year through...
 An abundance of these
 is our Yule wish for you!

BLAIN Bros.

Rance & Hardy

Prince Rupert Daily News
 Friday, December 24, 1954

**STORM DELAYS CANADIANS
 BOUND FOR U.K. YULETIDE**

LONDON (AP)—More than 250 Canadians bound for an English Christmas steamed ashore at Liverpool today from the liner Empress of Australia, delayed 24 hours by vicious gales. The 20,000-ton liner rode out mountainous seas all day Thursday amid anxiety that it might not be able to dock in time for its passengers to make last-minute connections.

Season's Greetings

To all our friends and neighbors we wish deep, lasting happiness and hearty good fellowship.

Bob Chidwick and His Staff at
Van Meer Studio

GREETINGS

May the joys of this season be visited upon you and yours, now and always. May your holiday be merry and filled with hearty good fellowship.

32 TAXI
 John Gurrich
DIAL 2011

Season's Greetings

Everything's ready for another merry Holiday season...including our warmest greetings to all our friends!

PHILPOTT, EVITT & CO.