

Decatur, Indiana, Thursday, December 24, 1925.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT PREVAILS IN CITY

ENGLAND ENJOYS
BEST CHRISTMAS
SINCE WORLD WARAtmosphere More Cheerful
And Jolly This Year;
Things On the AmendSEASON NOT WITHOUT
HARDSHIPS, HOWEVER

London, Dec. 24.—(United Press)—With the court still in full mourning, the British Isles are having rather a subdued Christmas though the atmosphere is more cheerful, if not more jolly, than it has been at any time since the war.

Things appear to be on the mend for the inhabitants of these isles, and there is a contagious sense of hopefulness abroad in the land which makes a sound foundation for Yule Tide.

The royal family, following its custom, is spending the day at Sandringham but it is as quiet as a family party, conscious of a vacant chair, and the usual banquet which King George gives on Christmas eve to the servants of Sandringham House will, of course, be omitted. The Christmas dinner of the royal family will be very simple in order to release as many as possible of the servants for their own little family parties.

London itself if not boisterous, is distinctly cheerful, due chiefly to the widespread conviction that the European mess is slowly but surely getting straightened out. The shops have done an enormous business and the streets have been congested with happy throngs. The theatres, especially those which produce the traditional "Christmas pantomime" for the British public, report heavy bookings.

Following a strange British custom, a vast flood of "red demand notes" from the Income Tax authorities, threatening summary action against all belated taxpayers, poured yesterday and today into the stream of Christmas mails but this grim bureaucratic device does not seem to cause widespread depression.

With more than a million Britons still unemployed, and with strike difficulties close at hand in mining, railway transportation, shipbuilding and heavy engineering, the season can not be described as one of unalloyed good cheer, but there is at least optimism in the air which is more than can be said for Christmas days of recent memory.

The belief that the Locarno pacts, signed early this month, mark the beginning of a new period of normal European trade relations is at the bottom of the almost universal cheerfulness.

The old English Christmas famous in story and poem of the family gathered in the oak beamed ancestral dining room with the cheerful fire crackling merrily while the round rosy lord of the manor three sheets under the wind sang songs and noisily shouted his orders, is rapidly becoming a thing of the past.

Failure To Attend
Church Causes Man To
Get Trip To Prison

South Bend, Ind., Dec. 24.—(United Press)—Failure to attend church services today cost Donald Blackburn, 24, convicted forger, his liberty.

Judge C. E. Pattee, of the St. Joseph circuit court revoked a suspended sentence and ordered Blackburn taken to prison to serve a two to fourteen year term when he learned the man was not attending church.

PLAN CHARACTER
EDUCATION MEETState Superintendent Of In-
struction Announces
Plans For Meeting

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 24.—(United Press)—Dr. Henry N. Sherwood, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, has completed plans for a state-wide conference on the subject of "Character Education," to be held in Indianapolis on Wednesday, January 13. The conference will be open to the public and it is believed that many religious leaders of the state in addition to almost all of the leading educators will attend the meeting.

Dr. George Albert Coe of Columbia University and Dr. George H. Betts, of Northwestern University, well-known authorities and writers on Character Education, will be on the program along with a number of prominent Indiana educators and religious leaders, including the Rev. Dr. Frederick E. Taylor of the First Baptist Church, Indianapolis; Superintendent L. L. Caldwell of Hammond; A. L. Trester, Secretary of the Indiana Athletic Association; Superintendent J. O. Chewing of Evansville; Dean Paul V. McNutt, School of Law, Indiana University; William H. Remy, Prosecuting Attorney of Marion county and Fred Hoke of Indianapolis.

All sessions of the conference will be held in the Hotel Lincoln. The morning session will be based on the theme, "The Community and Character Education," and will be called to order at ten o'clock by Superintendent Sherwood. A practical program for Character Education will be discussed at an afternoon session following a luncheon for all the conference visitors. The evening session will be given over to a discussion of problems of particular importance to young people. Superintendent W. W. Borden of South Bend will preside at the evening session.

Instead, we find the English family of today, celebrating its Christmas dinner in the spacious dining rooms of hotels. The extremely heavy drinking that characterized bygone Christmases, according to hotel proprietors have been considerably moderated, owing to the great popularity of dancing which requires a certain amount of equilibrium and also to the average Englishman's disinclination to stagger

THE NIGHT BEFORE—



in public.

So when England tomorrow forgets for a day its debts and doles, and gives itself unreservedly over to Christmas it will be in the fashionable hotels rather than in ancestral mansions that the Christmas dinners of the prosperous will be held.

"Before the war, Christmas was one of the dullest days of the year," said the head waiter of the Hotel Metropolitan today, "but to show how times have changed, every available table we have, has been booked for weeks in advance for tomorrow. Christmas dinners are elaborate, but not extravagant today, Turkey is almost universally ordered; also Christmas pudding and mince pie.

"We still make quite a fuss over the puddings," he continued, "turning the lights out and covering the pudding with burning rum—real rum you understand, not synthetic stuff.

"Champagne of course is the favorite drink and as you see there is quite a wide range of brands to choose from"—saying which he produced a wine list calculated to make a thirsty American green with envy. The champagne list alone listed fifty-nine choices of champagne, including Mumm's, Pol Rogers, Heidsieck's, Krug's, and many others at prices ranging from twenty-two shillings per quart bottle to 51 shillings per magnum.

The Merville's greatest specialty a champagne of the vintage of 1830 was listed at 90 shillings per quart or 4 shillings per liqueur glass.

"Some, of course, will like a bit of Bordeaux wine—business of turning five pages of Bordeaux wines, fourteen wines to the page—"some a little Burgundy" (two pages "Some Port" (two pages) "with probably a considerable number wanting a bit of whiskey"

(running his finger down a list giving a choice of Buchanan's Black and White, Dewar's White Label, Peter Dawson's, John Haig's, Walker's Red Label, "Sandy Mac's," Nichol's Scotch Cream and "Our Own Special Blend—Pre-war strength." "All genuine stuff—too," he remarked carelessly.

"England has its debts," he concluded.

Pope Makes Plea For
Regality Of Christ

Rome, Dec. 24.—A plea for parliaments and international gatherings to recognize the regality of Christ was voiced today in the Pope's encyclical which renewed the suggestions contained in his recent allocation and demanded for the church "full liberty and independence from civil powers, as its own right."

Slippery Streets Cause
Accidents In South Bend

South Bend, Ind., Dec. 24.—Auto accidents, resulting from slippery streets had taken a toll of one dead and twelve injured here during the last 24 hours.

Mrs. G. Burdette Stapples, 22, died from a fractured skull sustained when an automobile driven by her husband skidded from the road and overturned.

Population Of New York
State Shows Increase

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 24.—(United Press)—New York State's population today was fixed at 11,162,151, a gain of 776,924 in the last five years, it was announced by Mrs. Florence E. S.

Knapp, secretary of state, as the state census bureau completed its compilation.

Of this population New York City supplies 5,873,356, a five year growth of 253,308, the federal census of 1920 having shown 5,620,048.

Selling Of Race Horses
Not Profitable Business

Columbus, Ind., Dec. 24.—(United Press)—The selling of race horses isn't a profitable business these days, W. B. Daugherty said following his return from Chicago, where he sold five horses for \$125, less than enough to pay his transportation to the Illinois metropolises.

Hamilton County Jail
Empty After 11 Months

Noblesville, Ind., Dec. 24.—Memories today alone filled the Hamilton county jail. It was empty for the first time in more than eleven months.

Probably no other jail in the state had the attention of public focused on it more during the year than the local bastille, which for seven months was the home of D. C. Stephenson, Earl Klenck and Earl Gentry.

Want Farm Bureau To
Probe Highway Commission

Shelbyville, Ind., Dec. 24.—(United Press)—An investigation of the state highway commission by the Indiana Farm Bureau Federation was demanded in resolutions approved today by the Shelby county organization.

The resolutions condemned the state organization for its endorsement of the commission.

Hundred Homeless
Children Conduct
Raid In Moscow

Moscow, Dec. 24.—(United Press)—A hundred homeless children, part of the vast herd which have roved in bands since the war, today organized a Christmas raid upon shops in the heart of Moscow.

Police intervened and repulsed the ragged urchins, arresting four 13-year old leaders.

GEOLOGICAL
SURVEY MADEReport Is Of Interest To
Quarrymen, Gas, Coal And
Oil Operators of State

Indianapolis, Dec. 24.—(United Press)—A report of interest to the quarryman, gas, coal and oil operators of southwestern Indiana was made public today by Dr. W. N. Logan, of the state department of conservation.

The report was made as the result of a survey conducted during the last summer in Knox and Gibson counties. In his report, Logan points out, that "in the Wabash river valley the bed-rock formations are concealed by an alluvial and glacial covering of sand and gravel about 100 feet in depth. Beneath this formation are about 1,000 feet of sandstone, shale and coal, sometimes with thin limestone of the Pennsylvania age.

"In Gibson and Pike counties, two of the Pottsville sub-divisions have yielded some petroleum and natural gas. In West Princeton, Davidson shallow the McRoberts and Monroe city gas sands of the Pennsylvania area are found.

"The rocks which underlie these rocks are of the Mississippian age. The limestone formations are harder to penetrate but may be split up by the shale partings."

The report also urges drillers and operators to furnish the state conservation department with samples of drillings from the various wells.

Pastor Finds New Car
In Place Of Old Flivver

Frankfort, Ind., Dec. 24.—Rev. H. L. Crain, pastor of the Presbyterian church here is driving a new automobile today.

When he sought his old Ford car he found a new Overland six sedan parked in its place with a card which read "To Rev. Crain and family from members of his congregation."

Thief Steals Police
Badges From Office Of
Greencastle Mayor

Greencastle, Ind., Dec. 24.—(United Press)—Members of the Greencastle police were shorn today of the visible sign of their authority. A thief broke into the office of Mayor Zeis and stole every police badge owned by the city.

MANY EVENTS
ARE SCHEDULED
FOR HOLIDAYSSchools And Churches Give
Christmas Programs; Pu-
pils Enjoy VacationPOOR CHILDREN
ARE REMEMBEREDChristmas spirit prevails in Decatur
and Adams county.

Several churches and schools have held Christmas programs and others will be held during the next few days. The municipal Christmas program was held on Liberty Way yesterday evening and the beautiful tree, lighted with colored lights, will be left standing on Liberty Way during all of next week. The singing of Christmas carols and the distribution of a treat to the scores of children present, featured the municipal program, which was sponsored by the Woman's Club.

Schools Are Dismissed

By this evening, all schools in Adams county will be dismissed for the Christmas vacation. The public schools in Decatur have been closed since last Friday evening. The Catholic schools in Decatur and all other schools in the county closed today. Most of the schools will resume work on Monday, January 4.

Local stores have enjoyed fine business during the last few weeks, and their greeting cards, carrying the best wishes of the merchants to their customers, may be found on other pages of the Daily Democrat today.

The Good Fellows Club, sponsored by the Delta Theta Tau sorority, will bring Christmas cheer to the unfortunate children of the city and community tomorrow evening. Nearly \$300 in cash has been contributed to the club and other articles, such as gloves, coal, dolls and story books, have been furnished by individuals and firms. Van Grant, manager of the Adams theatre, will give a free moving picture show for the children.

Business To Be Suspended

Business will be at a standstill in Decatur on Christmas day. Stores will be closed, the post office will be closed and no city or rural deliveries of mail will be made, and the Daily Democrat will suspend publication for the day. Special services will be held in several of the churches.

Several events have been planned for Christmas week. Chief among these will be the Decatur high school alumni home-coming and banquet at the high school building on December 28; the basketball game between Decatur and Bluffton high schools at the high school gym on December 29; the basketball game between the Catholic high school varsity and alumni teams on December 30, at the Catholic high school gym; and the annual Tri Kappa dance and card party at the Masonic hall on the night of December 31.

GREETINGS

With kindest feelings towards all

we wish the readers of the

Home Paper

A MERRY AND JOYOUS

CHRISTMAS

DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

is the wish sent to every-

one of the readers of

this paper by the

NEWSBOYS

who deliver the

DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT