It's Time to Send Your Presents to Servicemen; 'Christmas Mail Month' Is Sept. 15 to Oct. 15

Privilege Granted On Overseas Gifts During This Period

The volume of Christmas mail going overseas to men and women in the armed forces this year will reach a new high, the office of war information predicts.

Approximately 33,000 uniformed men and women in the army and navy postal services are preparing for their biggest job-that of moving an estimated 70,000,000 packages of Christmas presents (three times as many as last year) to the military men and women overseas.

Army postal officers are preparing their organization to move about twice as many Christmas parcels as were handled in 1943, when 20,000,-000 holiday packages were sent abroad.

nearly four times the volume of gifts handled in 1943 through fleet post offices in New York and San Francisco. A total of 7,480,000 packages went through the fleet post offices last year, 3,480,000 of them to advanced bases or ships at sea and 4,000,000 to ships putting in at Amer-

The service postal organizations can handle this enormous volume more easily with a little assistance from friends and relatives of soldiers and sailors. In 1943, the army post office transmitted more than 20 million holiday packages and an additional 75 million to 100 million pieces of miscellaneous mail.

The navy moved approximately 3,480,000 parcels overseas last Christmas and approximately four million packages to personnel on shore stations in the United States, and more than 80 million letters and Christmas cards during the Christmas mail period last year.

The army and navy intend to make every effort to deliver every Christmas gift overseas on time and intact. But a sailor will not be cheered if the gift he receives from his mother-for example: an expenpletely buried in a box of cookies that have crumbled in transit, the navy said.

Distances, heat, cold, sand, dampness, fleet or combat operations, and the fortunes of war are hazards that complicate the delivery of all mail overseas, even without the Christmas rush. The only factor in Christmas gift delivery over which the sender has control is the type and condition of the parcel when it leaves his hands, the army and navy emphasized.

Mail Regulations.

1. Christmas mail month will comprise the 30-day period from September 15 to October 15, 1944, for all those in the armed services over-

This period is the only time during which packages may be sent to soldiers overseas without a specific written request from the soldier or without an APO cancellation.



Whenever the presents arrive is Christmas to soldiers across the sea Sometimes the army and navy postal services deliver the goods sooner than expected, as happened last year in Italy, when packages from home arrived late in November. The boys opened them up at once, since they didn't know what they'd be doing or where they'd be on Christmas The navy mail service expects Day. It's safest to mail early, however, because unforeseen delays can come along any time.

> inches in length and 36 inches in | including matches and lighter fluids, length and girth combined.

The army recommends that the package container be a box of metal, wood, or solid doublefaced, corrugated fiberboard, reinforced with strong gummed paper tape or tied with strong twine or both.

Standardized boxes for mailing Christmas gifts to military personnel overseas will probably be on the market by September 1, the War Production board reported. Approximately 16,000,000 special applications for the purchase by retailers and box jobbers of these boxes have been filed with WPB.

WPB said that the standard boxes are to be manufacutured of 175pound tested corrugated paperboard, 12 by 63/4 by 4 inches, in regulation slotted carton style with taped manufacturers' joints. The post office department has recommended that gummed flaps be supplied with the boxes for sealing the parcels, WPB reported.

Blanks for address and return address will appear on the panels of the box, also the statement "this sive wristwatch - proves to have box to be used only for sending been ruined because it was com- merchandise to a member of the armed forces outside the United

4. Address the package completely and legibly. Print the address so that it will not run, streak, smudge or fade. Place an additional copy of the address and return address inside the package, so that if it comes apart, or the wrapper is torn, soiled, or lost, the additional copy may be used. Do not use gummed

labels for addressing. The army and navy point out that they know what not to send overseas for Christmas, on the basis of past experience. But what to send is another thing altogether. In general, soldiers and sailors and others like gifts that are unobtainable where they are and remind them with special significance of home.

What Not to Send.

The services advise generally against sending articles that may be obtained by sailors in ships' serv-Only one package may be sent by | ice stores, or by soldiers in post ex-

tinned; liquor; clothing, unless re-

are taboo and will not be accepted

A navy postal officer stationed

overseas wrote: "During the Christ-

mas rush we kept a considerable

force of men busy rewrapping par-

the widest possible publicity could

to send liquids of any kind. They

should use every possible precaution

in packing powder of any kind. Fruit

is not only dangerous to their own

cakes and cookies crumble and de-

The navy has found that unsuit-

be given to these matters,

for mailing overseas.

Fragile articles and soft candies and pastries are poor gifts for obvious reasons, the army reported.

Gifts Poorly Wrapped.

The army cautioned that boxes of miscellaneous gifts should be packed carefully. Razor blades, for example, require extra wrapping. Numerous cases have been recorded of improperly wrapped razor blades working through packages.

In 1943, approximately 15 per cent of the Christmas mail handled by the navy was delayed in transit because of incorrect or incomplete addressing, the navy reported.

One navy postal officer wrote from the Pacific theater:

"It needs no considerable stretch of your imagination to understand Prelude to Success how mail looks after it has been shipped for thousands of miles by water, then worked and shipped again, reworked and reshipped until it arrives at a Fleet Post office for directory service. By this time, any of the parcel post that was at all inclined to be perishable is thoroughly decomposed, causing dam-

age to mails adjacent. "Only today we dumped up a sack containing the contents of a parcel which had come entirely apart. There were rotten apples, decayed oranges, melted candy and stale cake crumbs throughout the entire sack. This happens all too fre-

quently. "A great deal of it was originally poorly wrapped. Many parcels have sticker addresses. The sacks may have become wet in transit, causing the labels to come off. Fre- Hollywood Next Stop quently these stickers have been hurriedly slapped on, leaving tiny air pockets beneath them. Friction in transit causes these to wear off in spots. All too often addresses are in pencil, or, if in ink, the ink has become wet and illegible."

Again this year soldiers overseas will be able to select gifts for the folks back home from the mail order catalogue operated by the army or en behalf of the same person or | changes. But soap, for example, exchange service, special services which is available in most post ex- division. Listed gifts include: men's toiletries, haberdashery, leather goods, luggage, games, including playing cards, books, magazine subscriptions, dolls, toys, doll dishes, stuffed animals, smokers' supplies, candy, perfumes, cosmetics and and must be no longer than 15 weapons, poisons and inflammables, lingerie.

First Railroad Post Office Carried Mail to Soldiers

nent railroad post office was established to speed up mail for soldiers. On August 28, 1864, George B. Armoffice on its way over the Chicago and North Western railway from Chicago to Clinton, Iowa. Within a pediting the mails spread to include the principal trunk lines of the na-

concern to or for the same soldier

2. Mark the package "Christmas

Parcel," using a label that does not

resemble a postage mark or stamp.

3. The package must weigh not

more than five pounds, wrapped,

in one week during this month.

changes, is a valued gift, particu-

larly for soldiers on the move, for

in advancing they sometimes out-

distance for hours or days even mo-

Perishable foods, intoxicants.

bile post exchanges.

Packages get rough handling all along the way, and unless they are

securely wrapped and tied, they may be damaged in transit. Here

is a scene in the New York postoffice, showing how busy sorters toss

parcels into the hand-trucks. The big pile in the rear consists of packages

that are coming undone—the string working off, or the wrapping loose.

By the time your gifts have made the long trip in a mail sack, they

have been subjected to a lot of bouncing around on the railroad and

beat. The last stage may be made in a jeep or airplane.

with approval of the postmaster general as a means of facilitating | vinced of the plan's practicability, strong, then assistant postmaster of distribution of mail, particularly to remarking that "all the mail would Chicago, sent his first railway post men in the army. From the first, blow out of the car." Armstrong envisioned a national system and lived to see his plan announced his plan.

Eighty years ago the first perma- | world adopted the idea eventually. | bankers and civic leaders went Armstrong instituted the service along to witness the initial operation. One banker refused to be con-

Although Armstrong is generally credited with the first permanent become a success, despite public railway post office, others preceded few years the new system of ex- doubts and ridicule when he first him by a few years with similar plans. All, however, were devised to On the first trip 80 years ago meet local emergencies and no plan tion. Practically every nation in the prominent Chicago newspapermen, operated more than a year.

Hopper: Looking at

FRANCHOT TONE, suave man about town, society's pet sophisticate-this is the way Hollywood first typed Franchot, so this is the way we think of him. 'Tis true, Franchot would grace anybody's cocktail party, make no mistake about that. He has perfect passing manners-is also a good mixer of people plus cocktails.

But graceful manners and uncultivated poise are automatic with Fran-

chot. He wears them as easily as you and I wear that old outfit we've had many years. And, like those old clothes, Franchot is tired of being accepted solely on the basis of these surface impressions. Especially when Franchot Tone these impressions

are all the producers seem to remember when casting pictures. Franchot is no different from the rest of us, which means he's really just a plain, real person.

Franchot cast aside his bonds of aristocracy (if he ever had them) when he gave up a career as assistant to the head of Romance languages at Cornell university for a starvation diet of used scripts and black coffee. During lean years that followed his turn to the theater he cels and salvaging everything fit for learned to respect and admire the forwarding. A very great service so-called little man who wasn't could be rendered to us out here if afraid to work and starve if necessary for what he wanted. He became one of them, in fact. But his "The people should be warned not struggles didn't begin here.

Born into a family of means, the son of the late Frank J. Tone, scientist and president of the famous Carborundum company, Franchot mail, but it causes serious dam- was more serious-minded, objective, age to the other fellow's mail. Warn and studious than most children them about candy melting, fruit, born with a silver spoon you know where. He sweated his way through Cornell in three years. He so im-"Above all the fact should be pressed the faculty that he was apstressed that mail sacks can be pointed to his teaching post in the baked in the hot sun and drenched Romance languages before graduin transit, all in the same day." ation.

Did It the Hard Way

able gifts include: leather goods Franchot burned plenty of mid-(these mold in the tropics); chocolates (these melt); cigarettes (ob- night oil before he learned to shout, tainable more cheaply in ships' "O, how I loved my alma mater!" trical equipment (there may be no curriculum dealing only with study minded. electricity available); food, unless of the drama, physical education and bicep building, though that drama course at Cornell is no cinch. Franchot majored in drama. His course included French and Latin, a drama, ranging from its history to real, honest-to-goodness play acting, topped off with a few courses in mu-

of the ivy out of his hair, and in-Franchot was determined; he had from their well grooved seats with The lady's handiwork was never his first performance in "Age of Innocence." with Katharine Cornell.

Before he won this opportunity he did several years of solid training with the New Playwrights' theater in Greenwich Village, got \$15 weekly. He did a stint with the Garry McGarry Players in Buffalo, kept busy doing stock work until he got his Broadway call. After the Kit Cornell show Franchot appeared with Sylvia Sydney, Irene Purcell, and Peggy Shannon in "Cross Roads." He joined the Theater guild in 1929 and did a series of shows.

Franchot was not only an earnest actor but an idealist in his attitude the table. The smiling dark-haired a car. toward his work. He was an origi- man was young and handsome in nator of the Group theater. With his Army captain's uniform. There this organization, which still remains close to his heart, he appeared strength in the line of his broad in "House of Connolly," "Night Over | shoulders. "Oh, Tom," Dorothy Taos." and "Success Story."

By this time motion pictures were bidding for talented Broadway actors, so he signed with Paramount to play in "The Wiser Six," with Claudette Colbert, Lilyan Tashman and William Boyd. From then on Franchot cast his lot with movies, and proved himself an excellent per-

A long-term contract with M.G.M. brought Tone to Hollywood, and what followed is a familiar story. Producers called him "Smoothie." They immediately put him in "smooth" parts, and it's a tribute to Franchot's ability, plus his patience, that he made himself outstanding despite the fact that he worked too often with mediocre material.

What Price Youth?

Kenny Baker is no longer a kid. although he still looks like one. He's married and has two children, but when he bought a ranch out here, the owner insisted on getting an affidavit from Kenny's father that he was over 21 and would be able to pay for it. Kenny's just about to close for a mighty good screen part.

Sonja Henie insists she wants to do a straight dramatic part. If our little skater's set her mind on itshe'll do it!

The Heritage

By VIRGINIA COUGHLIN McClure Syndicate-WNU Features.

ITTLE Nan brought the question home from school with her. "Mummy," she said over her steaming lunch, "our teacher was talking about Pen-Penelope today. Who's she?"

"Oh, just a story-book lady, dear," Dorothy Nevins told her daughter. "Eat your potatoes now. And, Thomas Nevins Junior, please scrub those awful fingernails of yours thoroughly before you go back to school."

"O. K." Slouched in his chair, Tommy was obviously not thinking of his meal, or of his hands, either. Like his younger sister, Tommy lived in an enchanted world of bright, delicious fantasy. His eyes were wide and expectant. "How about this Penelope? What story is

"I don't know," Dorothy an-

"What did she do?" Nan's interest in the strange but somehow promising lady was keen.

Dorothy dropped kisses on the two dark heads. "It's been a long time since Mummy went to school. She has forgotten all about Penelope." Seeing disappointment cloud the children's small faces, she was immediately penitent. "Tell you what," she suggested, "I'll get out Daddy's mythology this afternoon and meet Penelope again. I'll tell you the story at bedtime. Will that do?" This was greeted with shouts of delighted approval.

Dorothy waved them to their afternoon sessions. For a relaxing moment she sank into a chair. The angelic whirlwinds, she thought lovingly, it would take ten mothers to keep up with them. Such beautiful children, she mused further, unabashed at her pride in them.

The clock measured off the minutes, tick, tick, tick . . . Just one glance at its bland face and Dorothy was on her feet again. She set about washing the dishes. It wasn't until she'd dropped the first tumbler into the froth of white suds that she felt her morning's depression close in upon her again. It came, as it had come every day, almost stifling her in its dark, heart-sickening spell. Her hands faltered. But pretty Mrs. Nevins lectured herself. "Don't stop. You've a job to do.'

Tucked in their respective beds that night, the little ones were obviously not the least bit sleepy. "Tell stores); cameras (forbidden); elec- His was no snap letters and science us the story, Mummy," Nan re-

"Yes," urged Tommy, "you prom-

"And I shall keep my promise-if you'll both go right to sleep afterward. No thousand drinks of water." half dozen courses dealing with She smiled at each of them in turn, then began the story.

It was the tale familiar to almost everyone, the fable of Penelope, that valiant lady who refused to give up Franchot left Cornell's halls after hope of her husband's return from a year's try at teaching, shook some the Trojan war. In terms suited to her youngsters' understanding, vaded Broadway. He can laugh at Dorothy explained how time raced it now; he couldn't then. His inva- on and Ulysses was no longer besion almost came a cropper. But lieved alive, how Penelope went about weaving a robe, promising to what it took, and so Broadway suc- marry one of her countless suitors cumbed when he jolted the critics only when it should be completed. quite finished, however, as she fashioned it during the day, then ripped the new stitches at night. Her artfulness saved her.

"Penelope was very wise," Dorothy ended, and the children nodded in agreement, their round eyes thoughtful.

After the evening prayers, kisses and nose tweaking, Mrs. Nevins tucked them in, then went downstairs to the quiet living room. She switched on the radio and sat listening to the soft music but not hearing it, fingering the small socks she was darning without seeing them.

"Tom," she whispered, turning to look at the photograph that stood on was capability in his lean face, asked, "why have I been such a baby? Other wives have waited for wars to end, haven't they? Always, throughout the ages, women have been buoyed by hope - even in Penelope's time. Penelope was very wise-wise to keep working and never, never to give up. I shall try to be more like her, Tom. '

The radio music stopped. There was utter silence until a young voice called from upstairs, "Mummy! Did the lady's husband come back?"

"Yes," Dorothy answered, "after long time Ulysses came home. Now go to sleep, darlings." She listened to their muffled re-

sponses. "Yes, Ulysses came home," she repeated to herself. Glancing at Tom's picture again she suddenly, happily, matched his reassuring smile with her own.

Sulphuric Acid

In peacetime the largest share of the sulphuric acid used in the United States is consumed in the fertilizer industry. It serves to break down insoluble phosphate rock, converting it into superphosphate of lime which dissolves easily in the soil and can then be drunk up as food by plant roots.

The second larget amount is used in petroleum refining, where it helps to tear the complex oil to

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS

House Frock With Smart Yoke Princess Dress—Collarless, Cool



A "Cooler"

VICEST air conditioned house and morning frock you've ever had! The smart yoke which is extended to form diminutive excuses-for-sleeves is awfully flattering. The loose dress is made formfitting by means of the two halfbelts at either side. Try it in pink seersucker. Use pink-pearl plastic buttons. Pretty?

Pattern No. 8672 is in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18. 20; 40 and 42. Size 14 requires 31/8 yards



Neck and Neck Aunt Martha-Have you kept up with your studies? Jasper - Yes, but I haven't passed them.

Another Thought Mrs. Smith-Your husband was certainly brave to crawl under the bed to

fight that burglar.

Mrs. Jones—Yes, but when he crawled under the bed he thought the burglar was down in the kitchen!

Bit Exaggerated Customer-These sleeves are miles too

Tailor-Well, how much shall I take Customer-Oh, I guess about a quar

Said the Boss-She's a good secretary, alright, but she's clock-

Fisherman's Prayer Oh, give me grace to catch a fish So large that even I In talking about it afterwards May never need to lie.

Not His Choice Housewife-And are you really content to spend your life walking about the country, begging? Hobo-No, lady, not at all. Many's the time I wished I had

We'll Bite, What? Jasper-I certainly like good food, and always look forward to the next meal. Joan-Why don't you think of higher things once in a while? Jasper-What's higher than food

"Dirt-cheap" is no longer a legitimate term, for dirt is no longer cheap, it's precious.

these days?

The Life Jasper-I wish I lived in Green-

Joan-What for?

Jasper-With a night six months long, it must be wonderful to have a date with a beautiful blonde.

street ensemble. Pattern No. 8622 is in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20; 40 and 42. Size 14, jumper, requires 23's yards of 39-inch fabric; jacket, 136 Due to an unusually large demand and current war conditions, slightly more time is required in filling orders for a few of the most popular pattern numbers.

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERN DEPT. Enclose 25 cents in coins for each Address

Send your order to:

Reason and Conscience

What can be more honorable execute the commands of reason and conscience-to maintain the dignity of our nature, and the station assigned us?-Jeremy Collier.



Before the end of the year, enough man-made rubber to fill all military and essential civilian needs, in the opinion of John L. Collyer, President of B. F. Goodrich, who foresees the output of 800,000 tons

Neglect of the rubber plantations now under Japanese control may be a benefit in disguise, according to authorities, since postponing the tapping of rubber trees to improve their subsequent yields.

of synthetic rubber in 1944.

Normally only one per cent of the rubber consumed in the U.S. went Into the manufacture of medical, surgical, dental and drug sundries, while more than 72 per cent was

B.F.Goodrich FIRST IN RUBBER

RICE KRISPIES "The Grains are Great Foods" - H. Kellugg · Kellogg's Rice Krispies equal the whole ripe grain in nearly all the protective food elements declared essential to human nutrition.