

# THE VOICE

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

"Dedicated to the promotion of the cultural, social and spiritual life of a great people."

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### EDITORIALS

The views expressed in these columns are those of the writer and not necessarily a reflection of the policy of The Voice.—Pub.

## The Lights Are On Again

(Editor's Note: A happy column for the year's most joyous season—that is what readers have this week from Barbara Wylie, a School of Journalism senior who is also a Lincoln Journal staff member.)

Look there . . . and there. See that green one . . . and that big blue one . . . and the red one. They all twinkle and wink. The Christmas lights are on again.

It isn't just the multi-colored haze these small globes throw out that cheer the multitudes at Christmas time. Oh, no, there are many other things that inject the "jolly old St. Nicholas" spirit into our veins.

Perhaps it is the soft, white snow falling silently from a grey heaven and drifting into odd-shaped peaks and mounds. The snow that covers the filth and vice of a city and leaves a clean white path for us to follow as we bustle from shop to store laden with brilliant packages.

Or maybe it is the steam that billows from our mouths as we breathe in the sharp, clear air, or

the ruddy complexions and cherry-red ears and noses of old friends whom we meet on our way. Or perhaps it is the sniffles School of Journalism senior who and damp feet we so often have at this time each year.

Have you ever seen the twinkling reflection of the little, bright lights on the snow, or watched a father and toddling son stagger off to a waiting automobile under the weight of an enormous emerald Christmas tree already decorated with a thousand white glistening sequins?

Why is there more hearty laughter in the air and why do the church bells ring clearer and truer? Why the sudden "love thy neighbor's" policy and the deep, booming "Hello's" and "How've you been's?"

And don't overlook the cozy picture seen through a frosted window of neighbors gathered together and their laughter escaping up the brick chimney and into the sharp night air.

All these things, and more, make the lights burn brighter at Christmas time in America.

## Chicagoans Join In Duke Ellington Salute

CHICAGO (ANP) — Chicagoans are now joining in the nationwide salute to Duke Ellington, marking the bandleader-composer's 25th anniversary as a top music-maker. And the series of events commemorating the event will get underway as soon as Duke invades the Blue Note cafe for a two-week stint this week.

On the South Side, Ellington will be the Dec. 24 guest at an employees luncheon at the plush Johnson Publishing Company.

John H. Johnson, publisher of Ebony, Tan and Jet magazines, said he will present the bandleader with a 25 year subscription to all three magazines.

On the North Side, the Duke will receive a scroll of merit at a press luncheon at Riccardo's Studio restaurant, Dec. 31, from the 22 year old National University of Music, by its president, Pauline J. Lee.

The University will also announce the establishment of a Duke Ellington scholarship in piano. Ellington is honorary chairman of the Great Names Scholarships Foundation which recently made a similar award to Nat "King" Cole.

The West Side of Chicago will wind the jubilee celebration up with a Silver Jubilee party for Ellington and several members of his band, at the Paris Club.

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by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

With the Christmas season—at least the shopping phase of it—beginning earlier each year, perhaps before long "last minute" shoppers will be those who have waited until after Thanksgiving to do their holiday buying. Be that as it may, in the midst of this year's Christmas rush it occurred to me that you might be interested in what the shopping aspect of the Christmas season was like at about the turn of the century. The best source of such information, of course, is the State Historical Society's collection of newspaper files.

In Beatrice, the mild, dry weather of early December, 1900, was looked upon as good for the town's Christmas business, although the Express remarked, "The croakers are beginning to view with alarm the protracted dry weather." For the Christmas shoppers who reportedly flocked to Beatrice, there was a wide range of goods offered. A fine rocking chair with arms could be had for \$6.50, Bibles from \$1.00 to \$2.00, cameras from \$4.00 to \$30.00, and dolls from 39 cents to \$1.75. Christmas trees were offered at from 20 cents up.

The week before Christmas saw Fremont stores staying open each evening to accommodate the holiday trade. As in Beatrice, bargains in furniture were suggested as gifts. For the man of the house there was a comfortable Morris chair for \$5.75, with "some better ones for a little more money." Then there was a colonial rocker, upholstered in leather, which could be had for \$25.00. This same advertisement reminded shoppers that "iron beds have come to stay."

One of the large stores in Grand Island announced, December 11, 1900: "We are making preparations for the displaying of our Holiday Goods. They are now coming in and will be on display in a few days." Apparently there was no early rush there. The toy department of another large Grand Island store advertised prices that would make today's shoppers stare unbelievably: tool chests, 10 cents to \$1.48; black boards, 10 cents to \$1.48; doll carriages, 25 cents to \$4.50; doll trunks, 39 cents to \$1.48. A "one cent sale" included dolls, whistles, mirrors and other items. Santa Claus was seen on the streets of the third city, December 15.

And so it went. Prices were a

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## The Voice Salutes

The Barker Shoe Store, located in the same location for nineteen years, is noted for finest quality shoes, hose, bags and bedroom slippers. The store personnel consists of two salesladies in the shoe department, two salesmen in the shoe department and two salesladies in the hosiery and bag department.

Mr. E. E. Beatty, who is the manager of this shoe store, is a lifelong resident of Lincoln. He has worked here all his life with the exception of a short time spent in Omaha as manager of a shoe store.

Mr. Beatty has managed Barker's Shoe Store since 1942. He lives with his wife, Eva, and daughter Sherry, at 5100 Washington. We salute Mr. Beatty for his magnificent job of managing this first quality shoe store.

## James H. Van Buren Winner of Alpha Award

By Norma Wall  
JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—(ANP)—Beta Zeta Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity has selected James H. Van Buren as recipient of its annual scholarship award.

Van Buren, a freshman business administration major at Lincoln university, graduated with honors from the Lincoln University Laboratory High School last year. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Van Buren, Fulton, Mo.

The scholarship is given annually to an outstanding high school graduate, according to James H. Seeny, chairman of the scholarship committee and principal of the Lincoln university laboratory high school.

James B. Hylick, principal of Hubbard high school, Sedalia, is president of the chapter.

## Northside

(Continued from Page 1)

It is the hope of Mr. Randol, that this stock buying drive will come to a successful close in thirty days after the opening date.

For further information contact Mr. Randol at 1319 O Street, 2-2247, or Mr. Sawyer at 2225 S Street, 2-4085. Watch for information and coupons next week.

lot cheaper—and dollars were fewer, too, it should be remembered—the season was a little shorter, but Nebraskans at the turn of the century appear to have spent December about as we do today. One is impressed also, in looking over those papers of half a century ago, that it was a gay season then, too.

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*Archie Furr*



**Question:** My basement does not have a drain. Could you tell me how to put one in? The floor is cement. W. P., Indianapolis, Ind.

**Answer:** Since a drain works by gravity flow, and to the nearby sewer or septic system or dry well, unless, these points are lower, the drain system will not work. In such cases, you'll need a catch basin with a sump pump to lift drain water to a higher level to flow into those outlets. The catch basin may be a cement-lined pit large enough to accommodate the sump pump. If gravity flow is not a factor, locate the drain at the lowest point on the floor, build a small basin, cement lined, with an outlet pipe laid beneath the floor which must be broken along the line, punched through the foundation, and so on to the sewer.

**Question:** I have a large picture window on the front of the house, which when the light is lit inside, attracts numerous bugs. Is there anything I could put on the glass to keep them off without obscuring vision through the window? P. W. S., Nashville, Tenn.

**Answer:** You might try one of the aerosol-propelled DDT sprays which leave a colorless film on the window. It may not discourage all insects, but the majority—particularly the soft-bodied ones—will quickly die. You will have to repeat the spray after hard rains.

**Question:** What kind of paint is suitable to use on a concrete floor before a furnace where hot clinkers are occasionally dropped? K. F. L., Elmhurst, Ill.

**Answer:** Metal-covering paints, such as those used on radiators, or (Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

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