

IN LINCOLN

Petition Filed Against Local Lumber Company

A petition has been filed asking that its directors furnish books for examination and that the court determine whether a receiver should be appointed and whether the company, a corporation, should be dissolved.

directors "did not administer the affairs of the corporation in an honest, careful and prudent manner, but on the contrary... wrongfully... caused money, property and effects of the corporation to be wasted and squandered, and diverted valuable properties of the corporation to their own use."

Legion Distributes Christmas Gifts

The Nebraska American Legion headquarters are distributing nearly a thousand Christmas packages to patients in veterans hospitals and to veterans in other hospitals in the state.

The three veterans hospitals at Grand Island, Omaha, Lincoln and the soldiers and sailors home at Grand Island; and veterans in the state hospitals at Hastings, Norfolk, and Lincoln will receive packages containing about \$5 in merchandise.

Freshmen To Present 'Stage Door'

Kaufman-Ferber Play Scheduled Jan. 9, 10

The Freshman Acting Group will present "Stage Door," a three-act play by George Kaufman and Edna Ferber, Jan. 9 and 10 on the stage of the Laboratory Theatre, Room 201, Temple.

Hal Cohen, graduate student in speech and dramatic art, will direct the production. He has had experience in dramatics in legitimate theater and at Columbia University in New York City.

According to Cohen, "Stage Door" is being rehearsed in a somewhat unusual manner. At any hour convenient to two or three characters in one scene and to the director, a "rehearsal" of the scene is held. The procedure will be followed until most of the play has been reviewed, when regular rehearsals will begin.

Every member of the Freshman Acting Group has a part in the cast or crew, with some individuals playing two roles. "Stage Door" takes place in the Footlights Club, an inexpensive rooming house for girls who aspire to the stage. Covering a period of three years, the play revolves around joys and heartbreaks of the young actresses in their struggle for success in acting and romance.

The cast includes Mary Kay Beecher as Terry Randall; Joyce Pangman as Jean Mailand; A. D. Van Sickle as David Kingsley; Russell Gutting as Keith Burgess; Ath Hanton as Mrs. Orcutt; Roger Wait as Sam Hastings and Adolf Gretzl; Sylvan Zwick as Dr. Randall and Lew Milhauser; Tony Melia as Larry Westcott and Fred Powell.

Phyllis Rasp as Louise; Mary Domingo as Olga Brandt; Sandra Sick as Pat; Margot Hunt as Bernice Niemeier; Carol Jones as Judith Canfield; Jane Morrison as Kendall Adams; Beverly Englishbrecht as Madeline Vanclain; Gloria Kollmorgen as Kaye Hamilton; Valerie Hompes as Big Mary; Sharon Mangold as Little Mary; Joey Dingman as Bobby; and Alice Todd as Mattie.

Borrowed Or Not, Christmas Remains Constant In Changing World

By PAT PECK Feature Editor

Students will be celebrating a borrowed Christmas this year. In fact, Americans have always celebrated a borrowed Christmas, and celebrated it with borrowed traditions. There is no American Christmas, in a pure state. It is a hybrid Christmas—as the people who call themselves Ameri-

cans are a hybrid people. The most beloved of our Christmas customs which we look forward to—and celebrate with rejoicing every year have come to us from all over the world.

The Christmas seals that we began selling when we were in grade school and have used on Christmas cards ever since we can remember had their origin in Denmark. The seals are now handled through the mail, but we are behind even in this method of selling them. The first Christmas seal was designed and issued in Denmark in 1904. In most of the European countries the sale of Christmas seals is made through the post office. More than 40 countries now have Christmas seals which are sold wholly or in part to fight tuberculosis.

The Christmas tree, celebrated in song and poem, is a symbol that appears in nearly every American home. The evergreen tree is surrounded by legend. The evergreen is believed to have been first used in decoration because of its ability to bring the world of nature indoors and preserve it.

From the many legends attached to the evergreen comes the tale that the fir tree was once the tree of life. Then Eve, in the Garden of Eden, plucked its forbidden fruit the foliage withered to flat green needles. On the night that the Christ Child was born, the tree began to live again.

Among the Christmas decorations which have become traditional in America are bells, all sizes and shapes of them. Bells have many legends with diverse origins attached. In Holland there is a village where the bell begins a mournful tolling one hour before midnight on Christmas Eve. The inhabitants believe that when Christ was born Satan died, and the tolling has come to be called "The Old Lad's Passing Bell." At the stroke of midnight the toll is changed to a joyous peal.

In Europe and in England there are valleys where people gather every Christmas Eve to listen for the sound of bells. It is believed that these valleys were once the sites of villages where the inhabitants were ringing the church bells on Christmas Eve when an earthquake swallowed them up. Every year since then the bells have been heard ringing in the valleys.

Candles which once decorated Christmas trees have given way to the less hazardous electric lights now, and have taken their place in candlesticks on the mantelpiece or in the church. Candles are still set in windows in recognition of the legend that a light in the house is needed to guide the footsteps of Saint Nicholas or the Christ Child through darkness.

The Yule log is not a strong part of the American Christmas. Perhaps because of a period in American architecture when fire-

places were not in vogue, the Yule log has appeared mostly in miniature decorative forms. The custom of the Yule log is borrowed from ancient Teutonic and Celtic races who celebrated the turning of the wheel of time, called the Houl or Houll, between the shortest day of the year and the time that the sun returned to the earth. Some believed that the sun actually stood still during these 12 days. The Druid priests chose a log to be kept burning throughout this period. A brand from the log was always saved to light the next Yule fire.

Perhaps two of the most beautiful legends clinging to our borrowed Christmas customs are those attached to the mistletoe and the holly. The legend of the mistletoe comes from Scandinavia. The Scandinavian god, Balder, received the promise from his mother, Frigga, that nothing having its origin in air, earth, fire or water should ever be able to hurt him. Loki, an evil spirit, held a grudge against Balder and determined to kill him.

He made a dagger from the mistletoe which does not have its origin in any of the basic elements, but grows as a parasite on trees. Loki gave the dagger to Helder, a blind god, and directed him to throw it at Balder. The dagger struck Balder in the heart and killed him. Through the combined efforts of the gods, Balder was restored to life. Frigga, goddess of love and beauty, decreed that the mistletoe must never injure anyone. Her tears became the white berries of the mistletoe and in thanking for the return of her son she is said to bestow a kiss upon everyone who passes under the mistletoe.

From this legend arises the custom of kissing under the mistletoe. Every kiss received under the symbol must be paid for by a mistletoe berry. When the berries are gone there can be no more kisses. The girl who does not receive a kiss under the mistletoe will not be married within the following year.

The holly has been revered down through the ages because its evergreen leaves attest to the fact that the sun never deserts it, and it is therefore sacred. There is the legend that the crown of thorns pressed upon the brow of Christ at the time of the Crucifixion was woven of holly. The berries were white then, but they turned crimson like drops of blood.

Holly is disliked by witches and is hung at doors and windows to keep out evil. Whoever brings the holly into the house first for Christmas, the husband or wife, will rule the house for the year to come.

Our beloved Santa Claus is a jolly old saint borrowed from the Christmas of early Dutch settlers. He has changed somewhat, picked up reindeer and a sleigh in favor of his legendary horse, but he is still the old man with white whiskers who visits good children everywhere on Christmas Eve, to leave gifts.

who visits Russian children is a woman, Baboushka. The legend says that Baboushka misdirected the Wise Men when they asked the way to Bethlehem and refused to shelter the Holy Family when they fled to Egypt. Realizing what she had done, she now journeys through Russia holding her lighted candle close to the face of every child and after slipping a toy under the pillow hurries on, seeking the Christ Child whom she has never found.

The Legend of gift-giving on Christmas perhaps comes closest to remaining unchanged in America. Queen Elizabeth of England relied on the Christmas gifts of her subjects to replenish her wardrobe—and the NU eed may not be too different from that.

But borrowed or not, Christmas seems to remain constant in a changing world. Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night.

January 8 Is Deadline For AUF Filings

Filings for All University Fund positions will continue through Jan. 8.

Application blanks, available in the AUF office, Room 306, Union, must be returned to Rocky Yapp in the AUF office or at the Beta Theta Pi house by 5 p.m. Jan. 8.

Interviews will be conducted Jan. 10 in the office by the 1952 and 1953 Executive Board.

Positions to be filled include publicity and solicitation board, assistant treasurer and office manager.

Applicants must sign up for interview times when they pick up their application blanks.

Rho Chi Initiates 5 New Members

Five University students have been recognized for high scholarship and achievement in the field of pharmacy by being elected to Rho Chi, national pharmaceutical honor society.

Juniors, seniors, and graduates in pharmacy are eligible for membership in Rho Chi on the basis of scholarship averages of at least 7, character, personality and leadership.

The new members are Dr. Wilford Sasaki, assistant professor of pharmacy; Keith Moul; James L. Pettigrove; Robert T. Bias and Floyd D. Sawyer.

NU Calendar

December 20—Christmas Vacation begins.

January 4—Sunday, art film program; Morrill Hall.

January 5—Monday, basketball, Colorado at Boulder.

January 6—Tuesday, art film program; Morrill Hall.

January 9—Through Feb. 8, Annual Faculty Art Show, Morrill Hall.

January 11—Sunday, 4 p.m., Faculty Recital, Union.

January 12—Monday, basketball, Kansas in Lincoln.

January 13—Tuesday, art gallery talk; Morrill Hall.

January 14—Through Feb. 15, Exhibition—visitors from Minnesota; Morrill Hall.

January 16—Friday, art gallery talk; Morrill Hall.

January 17—Saturday, last day of first semester classes.

Mercury Island in the South Atlantic is so honeycombed with tunnels that the pounding seas cause it to quiver throughout the day.

Motorized Units Costs Revealed

Maintenance of Lincoln's fleet of motorized units costs \$77,853.31 during the fiscal year ending Aug. 31. This represents an average cost of \$350 per unit for the 222 units.

The vehicle and cost figures include self-sustaining departments such as water and light, as well as those supported by taxation.

Of the 222 units, 53 are cars and station wagons.

Crosby Pledges To Reduce Taxes

Gov.-Elect Robert Crosby Wednesday pledged himself to an effort to reduce taxes in Nebraska. Crosby announced it was his "fixed intention" to reduce the current tax levy and put a ceiling on taxes for 1953. It would be the first time in two decades that taxes were reduced if Crosby and the 1953 Legislature can carry out the plan.

At a press conference, Crosby said that "it is my fixed intention that there be a reduction in the state levy of not less than 5% of a mill, based on the present assessed value."

He said he will submit the budget to the 1953 Legislature, trimmed to "permit a reduction in the state levy in that amount."

RCCU Collecting Books For Orthopedic Hospital

Books, comic books and magazines for children are needed badly by the Red Cross College Unit's special activities committee. Donna Elliott, chairman, announced.

The RCCU is collecting reading matter for children at Lincoln Orthopedic Hospital. Most of the children are confined to casts and their only entertainment is reading.

All contributions to the drive should be given to Miss Elliott at 1545 S St.

TV Committee To Discuss NU Programs Over KFOR

The University Television Committee will discuss possible University-sponsored television programs on KFOR-TV with officials from KFOR at a luncheon Thursday in the Union.

KFOR recently announced they would have a television station in Lincoln early in 1953.

George Round, director of public relations and chairman of the committee, said the committee will discuss possibilities of the University sponsoring programs similar to those on WOW-TV with George Smith, general manager of KFOR, and Ken Greenwood, program director.

These educational programs, Round said, would cover nearly all phases of education.

Following the luncheon, the Television Committee will discuss the possible expansion of educational programs now being presented on WOW-TV and hear a report by K. O. Broady, director of extension division, on a Television Engineers Society meeting in Chicago.

The University now sponsors or co-sponsors two programs on WOW-TV, "The Farm Question Box" and "Doors of Knowledge." The "Farm Question Box" is presented weekly and has been on the air for over a year. The University-sponsored program discusses the problems of farmers in the state.

"Doors of Knowledge" is co-sponsored by the University with Creighton University and the University of Omaha. The University will present the program Dec. 29 when Kenneth R. Keller, assistant director of public relations, and C. Bertrand Schultz, director of the museum, will discuss the history of domestic swine. The program is presented twice a week.

The Television Committee will also discuss the possibility of cooperating with Creighton University and WOW-TV on another program designed for homemakers.

Besides Round, committee members are: K. O. Broady, director of extension division; Edward W. Janike, associate director of agricultural extension service; Wendell L. Hoffman, manager of the photographic laboratory; James W. Taylor, director of audio visual instruction; Albion T. Anderson, assistant professor of history; Leroy T. Laase, professor of speech and dramatic art; Walter K. Beggs, professor of school administration; and Ferris W. Norris, professor of electrical engineering.

Your Church

NEWMAN CLUB Sunday, 8, 9, 10, 11 a.m. masses; 7:15 a.m. daily masses; 6:45, 7:15, 8, 9 a.m. holy day masses; Before all Masses, Saturday, 7:30 p.m. confession; 5:30 p.m., daily rosary. UNIVERSITY EPISCOPAL CHAPEL Sunday, 11 a.m., combined carol service and instructed communion; 6:30 p.m., Christmas buffet luncheon; 7:30 p.m., social party.

Lutherans Present Balcony Concert

The Lutheran student choir presented a concert of Christmas carols from the balcony of the Lutheran Student House Thursday at 7:15 p.m.

The concert was a further presentation of the Lutheran student group's emphasis on "The Christ in Christmas."

The Lutheran student choir of 40 voices is under the direction of Dennis Rohrs, University graduate and music director of Wahoo high school.

Military Department Plans Christmas Party Saturday

Faculty of the Army, Air Force and Navy ROTC will have a Christmas party Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Drill Hall of the Military and Naval Science Building.

Representatives from each of the services met to plan the party and decorations. Chief decoration will be a large Austrian pine Christmas tree in the center of the east side of the hall.

All ROTC faculty members and their wives are invited to the party.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM YOUR

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