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ON EARTH PEACE, GOD WILL TOWARD MEN

AND IT CAME TO PASS in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.
(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenus was governor of Syria.)
And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.
And Joseph also went up from Nazareth, into the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David.

THE BRIGHT PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS

THERE IS SOMETHING about Christmas which is more wonderful than the tinseled tree in the living room, more thrilling than the beautifully-wrapped presents more rousing than the count of little feet rushing to see what Santa Claus has brought in his giant pack.
What is so wonderful is that Christmas—particularly this Christmas of 1952—heralds not the coming of a new day but the bright promise of tomorrow.

It is true that the soft kiss of an eager child, the warm handshake of a friend, the hearty smile of a neighbor are all exciting parts of Christmas. But deeper and more important than any of these happy things is the encouraging prospect that tomorrow, the countless days to follow, will bring better days to all mankind.
Why will these future days be better? Men are still bleeding on the battlefields of Korea. Communists threaten the sanctuaries in Washington and in the United Nations organization. Corruption, laxness, wastefulness and rank incompetence characterize the way many of our public servants behave.

It is important to all of us to grasp the enduring significance of Christmas, for its TO YOU WHO GAVE...
THE HUNDREDS of generous Mecklenburgers who contributed to the Empty Stocking Fund, and the Empty Stocking Bureau. This News voices its deep appreciation today.

And so doing, we speak not only for ourselves but for the hundreds of less fortunate persons in the community who would not have shared the joy of Christmas today, but for the money donated to the Empty Stocking Fund.
No one of us can know just how great that joy was, for it is not permitted to us, nor would we wish, to intrude upon the privacy of these families as they take joy in one another and in the small gifts that the Fund has given. Nor would we wish to intrude upon the trace in which every remembered child is lost in those first few hours after the dawn of Christmas Day.

CHARLES W. TILLET

THOSE of us who deal in the big realm of public affairs, the loss of a citizen like Charles W. Tillet is a peculiarly weighty blow.
Mr. Tillet was many things—a fine family man, a brilliant lawyer, an active church and civic leader, a warm public official. But his most striking characteristic, and the thing that brought him to our attention so many times, was his wide-ranging interest in public affairs and his broad conception of the duties and responsibilities of citizenship in the American democracy.

His interest began at the local level—the city and county governments, school boards, commissions. It extended through state government to the national level. But found its most challenging opportunity in the slow, often painful progress of the American nation to its destiny of enlightened world leadership.
We still remember the articles that Mr. Tillet wrote for The News from San Francisco, where he attended the world conference called to write the United Nations Charter. Not only were they clear and crisp and of the highest quality, but they rang with his fervent conviction that the free nations of the world must hang together, and help separately. But his zeal for a better world did not end there. In lectures, newspaper articles, letters to newspapers, and appearances before Congressional committees, he continued his one-man campaign for



Surprises May Be In Store How Conservative Is Ike?

By STEWART ALSOP EISENHOWER HQ, N. Y.
ACCORDING to a very moderate estimate, four of the key members of General Eisenhower's future Cabinet expect between them an aggregate annual income of over \$1,100,000. Other important Eisenhower appointees are financially not far behind. It is no wonder that one cautious critic has described the future Eisenhower Administration as consisting of "70 millionaires and one plumber."

And it is no wonder that a good many big businessmen are gleefully anticipating a "government of business, by business, and for business."
This raises the question: just how conservative is Dwight D. Eisenhower? Here it is worth recalling an episode of the campaign. General Eisenhower was at first strongly inclined to make a major issue of the steel strike. In the abstract, it seemed to him disgraceful that the steel industry should be brought to a halt at a time of national crisis.

Before committing himself on the issue, he asked to be briefed on what the strike was all about. Certain of his labor advisors explained it to him in human terms—what the pay increases and other benefits the steel workers wanted, would mean to a steel worker's family in a time of rising prices. Eisenhower's reaction was, "Why, maybe they ought to have more than that, if the steel strike never became a major campaign issue."

Hard To Classify
ACCORDING to those who have worked closely with him for months, most issues, like the steel strike, become real to Eisenhower only in terms of people. Because he is deeply interested in people, and hardly at all in political doctrine, it is simply impossible to classify the next President as a "conservative" or a "liberal."

His appointments are heavily weighted with businessmen simply because he admires such men as people. As to most military men, financial success in the fiercely competitive business world seems to him as reliable a mark of ability as the four stars on a full general's shoulder. And as Eisenhower has repeatedly said, he wants "the best brains he can get in the way of running the country close to him, but he has no intention whatsoever of favoring big business at the expense of other segments of the community."
On the contrary, there is much talk here in Eisenhower headquarters about challenging the Democratic hold on the mass voting groups which were the basis of Truman's victory in 1948. Most of the Eisenhower advisors here are practicing as lawyers, and by the DeWey wing of the Republican party. "Tom DeWey did it in New York," they say, "and Ike can do it in the nation."

DeWey, like Eisenhower, came to power in New York with heavy big business backing. But he has

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
THERE I didn't know about Christmas—here are some things I didn't exactly know, and perhaps you didn't either know about Christmas... The first Christmas trees were brought here by German immigrants... The first brightly colored Christmas cards were introduced by Russian soldiers... Christmas cards came from England... The idea of Santa Claus came from Holland... The practice of hanging up stockings came from France, Belgium and Holland... The tradition of wooden shoes... The Yule log came from Scandinavia... Mistletoe came from the ancient Druids... Christmas carols came from almost every country... In fact, while we have come to think of Christmas as an American institution, and probably we go in for it more than most countries—nevertheless Christmas customs are all transplanted. And though we are still struggling to achieve Christ's goal of "peace on earth and good will to men," it is in the manner of observing his birthday is international.

There's A Silver Lining On Dark Clouds In The Far East

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON
THE easiest thing to do is to draw down the curtain of gloom. All practically every spot on the globe is being hit by the gloom of the dark clouds. This can be added up to an impressive total calculated by the Bureau of Economic Warfare.

Yet, from the perspective of the change so soon to take place there is a dual perspective: the effect of those who are departing to appreciate the light in the darkness as good as a light as possible and the changed approach already being planned by the man soon to take over.

One can discount by half the claims President Truman has made for the past seven years and nevertheless bring up a fairly impressive score, in the matter of counter-propaganda. Communist threat. From a source directly concerned with carrying out the policies and the program of military mortgages to redeem them, a moderately hopeful account of the situation in the Far East is considered blackest—the Far East.

Deputy Secretary of Defense William Foster has just completed an inspection-trip of trouble centers around the globe. It was just the first of several similar trips, which gave him a basis of comparison.

What has been reported about the situation in the Far East is that the Communist manpower would be immobilized if the threat became more real.

But it was on the island of Formosa that Foster saw the most pessimistic picture of the situation. He saw the military regime of Chiang Kai-shek has moved far toward great stability and confidence in its acceptance. Export surpluses are helping to make the island self-sustaining.

Partly as a result of this impression the incoming administration will find in the file a recommendation that one or two divisions be sent to the island of Formosa.

JOE BUSHKIN plays an old song, called "Love a Piano," as he looks on the piano. It is very handy here in bella Roma. I have known that you only have to have ten words to get along in Italian because you speak "piano" covers everything else.

It is my living on the fourth piano, listening to the piano play, and taking things very piano in general. Piano, means floor, and plain, just plain piano. It is a very handy word to have around.

It really isn't any trouble with Italian if you remember to say "ecco" every few minutes, and this also applies to your comment from time to time that everything is bello. Everybody learns the job becomes difficult.

LANGUAGES TROUBLE
I have found, though, that for purpose of conversation involving complicated matters, that nobody ever learns enough Italian. I have spent the past week exploring the best brains of two steamship companies, two air lines, the State Department and the Ministry of the Interior trying to make a point with the business people who are involved in the transport of guns, and may be here all winter.

Finally there is the danger of another "Republican depression" which handed down from the lights out of the more astute Eisenhower advisors, and which would knock the "DeWey formula" into a pulp. Yet, the fact remains that Eisenhower apparently has the intention, and will certainly have the power, to give the nation the same sort of business program that still will not an occasion among New Englanders.

Santa Claus — Was first brought to this country from Holland by early Dutch settlers. The Santa Claus tradition was probably handed down from the Christianizing saint of children, who in the fourth century was supposed to have been wealthy and to have given much to the poor. Hanging gold pieces in cottage windows was supposed to have been a way of saying "I am rich and I give." In Germany, St. Nicholas comes to the door rather than down the chimney... In New England, the custom of wearing red was still in vogue when the Dutch have started the custom of Santa coming down the chimney.

Christmas trees—There are many legends about the origin of the Christmas tree. St. Nicholas is said to have inspired the idea because he wanted his wife and children to see the beauty of the snow-covered forest... The custom of hanging gold pieces in cottage windows was supposed to have been a way of saying "I am rich and I give."

Christmas cards—Were inaugurated by an English artist in 1843 who designed a colored lithograph for Christmas cards. The first Christmas card was sent in England... It had been the English custom to send "Merry Christmas" from the window of Christmas morning, and the next step was to express the same thought by card.

Christmas carols—Began as folk music; expressions of religious feeling by the people of the 14th and 15th centuries. The first Christmas card was sent in England in 1843. They returned in the 19th century, however, when Nahum Wesley wrote "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing..." The first "Noel" was brought to England by the French-Norman musician, who wrote "White Christmas." The organist composed "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Luther wrote and taught his children "Ave in the Manager..." "Joy To The World" was written by an Englishman, who wrote "The Christmas Carol" which was "I Came Upon The Midnight Clear" by Rev. Edward Sears, and "We Three Kings of Orient Are" by J. H. Johnson.