



PEOPLE Letter To Scrooge

BY CHARLES KURALT

Dec. 25, 1936

Dear Ebenezer,

Marley is dead. And so, of course, are you. Not in the trite sense that you will "live forever," but in the ordinary, daily, simple meaning of the word. As a practical man, which you always were, you will understand this.

The proposition we have to offer you today concerns your descendants. There are Scrooges, Ebenezer, with us yet. Oh, they are good people at heart, just as you were. But just as you were, they are misinformed about Christmas. Do you suppose you could clank your chains at 'em?

First, there are those who grumble about how much "trouble" Christmas is. Of course it is. Always has been, from the first one, which was so much trouble for that couple from Nazareth that they gave up looking for a room and settled for a stable.

Fighting the crowds on Tryon St. is no fun. The Bethlehem crowds were the same. And earlier Christians than we had to fight the Roman soldiers to celebrate Christmas. We miss the meaning of it all to commemorate the "trouble."

Then there are the lesser Scrooges who decry the "commercialization" of Christmas. They mean people are knocking themselves out to sell something at this season, and to that extent they are right.

But did you ever run into a man who thought his OWN Christmas was too commercial? Doubtful, Ebenezer. One's own Christmas is all plum pie and spirituality. It is the other man who misses the true meaning of the day.

Perhaps you could help convince these frowners that Christmas does not abide in a shop window but in the human heart, an organ notably difficult to commercialize.

You may find it hard to take after your own awakening, but on this afternoon, Ebenezer, when the stab of excitement in the soul of childhood is giving way to the warm and sleepy afterglow—on this afternoon, of all afternoons, there are still people who complain about Santa Claus.

You would think the goodness of Santa Claus, who is a Saint, after all, had been amply demonstrated by now.

But they say the old guy has nothing to do with Christmas and should be banished. We have heard them say it.

Visit them, Ebenezer. Show them the compatibility of Christ and his birthday's Saint. Touch them with joy. Give them a testimonial. Soothe their fears about the future of this day. As even you found out in the end, it is the greatest day of all.

Wish them a Merry Christmas, Ebenezer. And the same to you.

The Everyday Counselor

If Christ Had Not Been

By DR. HERBERT SPAUGH

Suppose there was no Christmas? Suppose Jesus Christ had not been born? From the First Methodist Messenger of Hamlet, N. C., I quote an answer to the question.

"If Christ had not been born... the promises of God given through the prophets would not have been fulfilled; the faithfulness of God's Word would be in serious doubt.

"There would be no Saviour for mankind; men would still be in the darkness, the misery and condemnation of sin.

"The character of God, who seeks us out in love and deals with us as a father, would still be unknown.

"Every man would be law to himself, for there would have been no one who could rightfully claim to be Master and Lord.

"The secret of peace is our soul and peace among men would be unrevealed.

"Men would continue to live as a kind of advanced species of animal, never knowing their true state as children of God.

"The blessings of freedom would be denied men, and women would remain in bondage.

"The world would be without the marvelous example of a sinless life.

"Young people would be forced to grope their way to maturity without His matchless teaching and guidance.

"Prayers would be useless and without prospect of answer apart from His gracious intercession.

"There would be no good cheer when life gets us down without the encouragement of One Who was victorious.

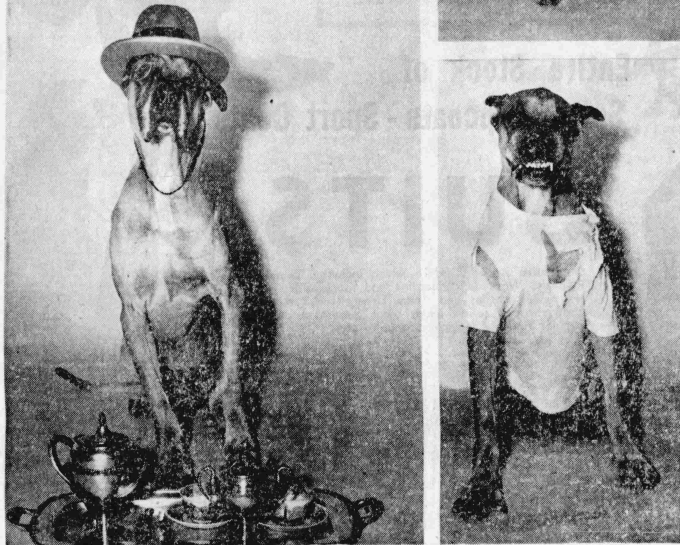
"The cheery music of the carols and the thrilling songs of the Gospel would never have been written.

"There would be no balm for troubled minds and no comfort for those in sorrow.

"Men would not have seen the miracle-working power of God, nor would they have known this same divine power in their own lives.

"Eternal life would still be a fond hope instead of a great conviction and an eager expectation.

"We should profoundly thank Almighty God for Christmas and keep its true meaning in our hearts, minds and actions.



Baron Just A Natural For Any Type Of Role

One of the brightest stars on the Hollywood horizon these days is Baron, the Great Dane star of "Hollywood Or Bust."

A great scene-stealer, Baron takes away the spotlight from such names as Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis and Anita Ekberg with a comedy role that's a natural.

Ekberg with a comedy role that's a natural.

Baron's ability isn't limited either.

Here he takes over four roles for which he may be cast in future movies.

Take, for example, a western. Hopalong Baron (upper left) plays the part with ease as he ponders whether to "head for the pass" or not.

Should he be sent to France, Baron is prepared. At upper right he clamps down on his cigarette holder while looking for the left bank of the Seine.

A jump across the channel and Baron would be right at home in England. A butler's role (lower left) would be a natural, al-

though the pooch would hardly be as unobtrusive as a butler's supposed to be.

Finally, Baron can be as rough as the best (lower right). He excels in the "torn shirt" school of acting and has been known to chase streetcars with real desire, although buses and Jaguars are his current favorites.

THE WORRY CLINIC: Topic: Tobacco, Liquor

By Dr. George W. Crane

Mr. Bridwell has started a very clever plan that all employers could well imitate. For it adds actual years of life and at least \$100 annually to the family pocketbook. Scrapbook this case record, too, as an evidence of the sterling defense of freedom which American newspaper editors demonstrate.

And by all means stop the liquor habit, for it costs you far more than the cigarette habit.

No young couple nowadays can afford, even financially, to spend money on tobacco or liquor.

And from the aspect of good parental psychology, you can't afford to set such a bad example before your youngsters.

In this column we offer you the straight facts about all evils that pollute happy family life, even though we are often subjected to criticism.

of the dangerous medical and psychological ill effects of smoking. I'm on their "black list."

One leading newspaper executive told me recently that the New York City manager of his nationwide newspaper chain, has "put the heat on us because we run Dr. Crane's column."

For the tobacco interests had, in turn, "put the heat" on this New York City newspaper executive, apparently threatening to curb tobacco advertising in that chain of newspapers if Dr. Crane's column continued to tell the truth about the evils of tobacco.

The vast majority of newspapers, however, still maintain freedom of their editorial policy from dictation by heavy advertisers. More power to them!

For when advertisers can dictate what you shall read in your newspapers, our free Republic is on the toboggan.

So be grateful you still have editors like John Peter Zenger who are champions of freedom of speech. Our newspapers are the greatest defense against dictatorship of all sorts.

I send for my booklet "How to Break the Tobacco & Liquor Habits," enclosing a stamped return envelope, plus 20c (non-profit).

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CASE T-356: J. S. Bridwell is a rancher and oilman of Wichita Falls, Texas.

A year ago he launched a clever plan among his 255 employees. He offered every smoker a \$50 award to quit his tobacco habit.

And 32 of them presented signed statements that they had qualified for the prize.

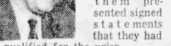
On the stub of the checks which the winners received, was this comment:

"A partial reward to you for a sensible decision to quit smoking. Your real reward will come in better health, fewer accidents, better spirits, greater savings, and in the satisfaction that you are an example for others who may be shortening their lives with this oppressive habit."

Well, I salute Mr. Bridwell. We physicians can certainly attest to the greater health that he has granted those 32 employees who quit smoking.

They will probably average between 5 to 10 years more longevity.

For they will be much less



susceptible to lung cancer. But a far more serious medical evil than lung cancer is the effect of tobacco on the heart and blood vessels.

That medical "bombshell" hasn't been exploded yet in America, but the bad effect of tobacco on the lungs is probably trivial compared with the heart attacks it produces.

In addition to the \$50 award, which the employees obtained by quitting their tobacco habit, each one saved an average of \$100 per year in addition.

For the "average" cigarette smoker burns up \$100 annually on the ends of his cigarettes.

If you young married couples wish to plug up one of the dangerous "leaks" in your family budget, just eliminate tobacco.

And by all means stop the liquor habit, for it costs you far more than the cigarette habit.

No young couple nowadays can afford, even financially, to spend money on tobacco or liquor.

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In this column we offer you the straight facts about all evils that pollute happy family life, even though we are often subjected to criticism.

And criticism we suffer openly, plus open and veiled pressure from the entrenched tobacco and liquor interests.

To be specific, the tobacco companies dislike my exposure

of the dangerous medical and psychological ill effects of smoking. I'm on their "black list."

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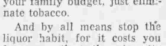
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Wishing Well

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HERE is a pleasant little game that will give you a message every day: It is a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner of the rectangle and check every one of your key numbers, left to right. Read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

How's Your I. Q.?

- A snake will not crawl over a hair rope, true or false?
- The Kyber Pass between Arganzaban and Burma?
- Exodus, in part, deals with the slavery of the Hebrews in which country?
- What is an amendatory addition to a last will and testament called?
- What is the equivalent rank in the Navy to that of a Major in the Army?

- ANSWERS
- False.
 - No. And India.
 - Egypt.
 - Co-dial.
 - Lieutenant Commander.

FAMOUS AUTHORS

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A doctor has removed a needle from the finger of Mrs. Dan McDonald of Springhill, Nova Scotia, 28 years after she accidentally pushed it under the skin.

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THE CHARLOTTE NEWS Feature Page

Edited By Jim Banbury



Just a friendly greeting to wish you and yours all the joys of a Merry Christmas and a New Year full of healthy and happy days.

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MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION