

# The Farmington Enterprise

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## Merry Christmas



### Thoughts for A Merry Christmas to You

"This was the chorus of that heavenly anthem which fell upon the shepherds' ears and which will ring down the centuries till the end of time: 'Gloria in excelsis Deo—peace on earth, good will toward men.'"

May Christ's glory illumine every home and cradle every workshop and counting house. May a brighter halo than the painters put around his head surround every mother and babe throughout the land at this Christmas-tide!

**Pretty Dutch Christmas Custom.**  
In Holland, a pretty custom exists. On the night before Christmas, in commemoration of the star of the east, the young men of the town assemble and carry through the dark streets a large, bright star. All the people go out to greet it and give to the bearers of the "star of Bethlehem," as it is called, alms for the poor.

### The Yule Log

The observance of lighting the Yule log from the remnants of the previous Christmas log can probably be traced to the ancient Celts. In the efficacy of fire, which was supposed never to be extinguished. It is a link in the chain that binds us to bygone times when, to quote Max Müller, "the hearth was the first altar, the father the first elder, his wife and children and slaves the first congregation."

### The Manger of The Blessed Babe

TRADITION tells us that within the stone manger, which may now be seen in the "bail" of the Nativity at Jerusalem, there was another of wood. It is also stated that the stone manger which attracts the interest of every visitor to Jerusalem was the other one, and within it was housed the second. That humble stone trough in the Holy City is splendid and beautiful, with white marble, soft, rich, costly draperies and radiant with a silver star.  
But yet more glorious and interesting is the wooden manger which may be seen in the city of Rome. It is held that this is the veritable manger in which the Christ Child lay. It was removed to Rome during the seventh century during the Mohammedan invasion of the Holy Land, and there it is preserved in a strong beech chest, from which it is brought forth on Christmas days, when it is placed upon exhibition.

### TAKEN FROM OUR EXCHANGES

News Items Taken From Other Papers Over the County and Surrounding Territory.

The epidemic of hard cold which the Advertiser mentioned last week is the regular old fashioned grip, the doctors state. The persons who has not been a victim is becoming an exception. It has had a bad effect on school attendance. In the high school one day this week, 29 pupils were absent. There

### Christmas Among The Wealthy Kiddies

Now as the Merry Christmas and a Glad New Year are a hand and history of world wide interest has been written in prosperity for some nations and in destruction, death and despair for others let us hope the future will make amends for the past, that all may rejoice.

"We have tried in the past to pass along something to help you. Now we wish you all 'A Merry Christmas,' for joy makes the

heart strong and the world better. Be glad that all about you may share your gladness.

That 1916 may be "A Happy New Year" bringing to you a continuation of Christmas joys and a greater prosperity is our wish for you.

Go forward, steadily, courageously and avoid the mistake of the past by having hold of the promise of the future. Look for and strive for greater things. Make the achievements of 1915 the prelude to greater during 1916. Throw aside prejudice and seek enlightenment. Help and seek help, teach and learn, for by these things

success comes. Do not think anything that makes for more and better business is too small to receive your attention.

Good business is more pleased to enter when surroundings are attractive and a welcome smile awaits.

The knocker and his hammer are undesirable.

The cheerful up to date man is an asset in his community.

The merchant is a fellow citizen, who pays taxes.

The village blacksmith is an earnest, hard worker, who earns his money.

So also is the village carpenter, the drayman and any man, who works.

And may your success be duplicated and re duplicated so that you may truthfully and in just pride say: "It is the best town of its size in the state and its people are progressive, prosperous and happy."

Try the Enterprise liners.

Buy candy, nuts and oranges of Cook & Co.

The Nelson Sisters have a full line of Christmas candles.



'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;

The stockings were hung by the chimney with care In the hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;

The children were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar plums danced through their heads.

are also two or three cases of pneumonia in town.—Holly Advertiser.

A young lad from the Boys' Home started out to see his parents in Detroit last Sunday. Having no money he started afoot. On reaching Redford he was tired, so he got into a bread basket to take a nap. James Sullivan found him nearly frozen. He got the boy out, warmed him up, and next morning sent him back to the home.—Redford Record.

Everett Sears, the former Detroit mail carrier, who is the victim of a double personality, two years ago bought a chicken farm near Rochester. He lived there with

with his family until a few months ago, when he again disappeared. When he recovers his normal condition Sears has no knowledge of what he has done or gone through. He has again been located, this time with his parents in Boston, and his wife, who is a daughter of John Henry Switzer, of Shelby, has joined him with their son.—Rochester Era.

Ward Swartout, of Pinckney, who has been visiting here, and who returned a short time ago from a trip through the west, including a visit to the exposition, in company with two other young men, made the out-going trip in a Ford car. Going by way of Omaha,

Cheyenne, Yellowstone Park and Portland, they covered 5,500 miles to San Francisco, and their experiences were many and varied. In the latter city they sold the machine for almost as much as they gave for it, and strange as it may seem, it carried Michigan air in all four tires.—Brighton Argus.

Our local base ball fans will in the near future, have a chance to "bat the ball" right in the good old winter time. George G. Stevens of Spokane, Wash., who is visiting relatives about town, is interested in the sale and manufacture of a base ball pitching machine and will install one for show purposes in the north store of the old opera

house building. A nominal sum will undoubtedly be charged those who wish to fatten up their batting average, either for winter practice or for physical exercise.—Northville Record.

### Our New Story

Can you place yourself in the predicament of being near death from cold and exhaustion, struggling in the waters of San Francisco Bay. Fog shuts out sight and hearing, and your cries go unheeded. At the instant your consciousness is slipping away, you are rescued by the crew on a schooner and revived. They laugh at your predicament. You discover that

### Christmas Among The Wealthy Kiddies

CHRISTMAS in Millionaire row! Is it a day spent in fairyland, where one has but to wish and all sorts of lovely things come tumbling down from somewhere?

Does Santa Claus come decked in gold and diamonds when he dashes over the roof tops as the little children of the rich lie softly cradled in their beds? Not a bit of it. Santa is the same jolly old saint when he drops down the chimneys of Fifth avenue, New York, as when he leaves a toy on the ash strewn hearth of the east side. He knows that, although the big nurseries and playrooms of the avenue already hold stacks of toys and beautiful things, somehow when the flavor of dr and holly is in the air there is the same thrill in the hearts of the tots in fur and velvet as in those in cotton. And blessed old Santa smiles on both!

To all youngsters, rich or poor—new and old or young—he is the embodiment of the blessed Yuletide spirit which brightens the entire year.

### fasting at Christmas

When Cromwell ruled England he issued an edict against all festivities at Christmas. The festival was altogether abolished and the display of holly and mistletoe and other emblems of the happy time held to be seditious.

### Christmas Fun On a Warship

"I can't be at my own home," remarked a navy officer the other day. "I'd rather spend the holiday season on a vessel down in the Caribbean than in the greatest city of the land. Fun? Why, you don't know what fun is until you come to one of our celebrations!"

He told of many such celebrations, beginning with a musical comedy given by the crew of a protected cruiser off a South American port, winding up with a Christmas tree. It was a big tree, too, one that anybody might have envied, and the sailors had made a trip ten miles inland to get it on the previous day. From every branch there hung gifts for the diners.

Just as the big tree was fastened into place there appeared through the high window a real Santa Claus.

Down a chimney-like opening he crawled, finally leaping upon the table with such force that half a dozen glasses went crashing to the floor. Amid the applause Santa Claus proceeded to award the presents.

they are most wicked men imaginable and that you face serious trouble. What would you do? What could you do? Read the opening chapter of "The Sea Wolf," Jack London's great story and see if you would do what Humphrey Van Weyden did. The story starts in this issue of the Enterprise.

Enterprise liners always pay.

Fine new home for sale by Fred M. Warner.

A new stock of Black Cat hosiery just received at Cook & Co's.