

## **“What Happened Today in History”**

**December 27**

**1923**

### **“Legion Plays Santa Claus”**

The local post of the American Legion played the role of Santa to about three hundred children at the Rex Theatre Sunday afternoon, presenting each youngster with a gift, candy and apples.

The theatre was decorated with huge Christmas tree, brilliantly lighted and the children treated to a Jackie Coogan program. The Legion wishes to thank A.E. Davidson of the Montana Power Company and W.J. Hazelton and R.L. Dickey of the Rex Theatre for their part in the making the program such a success. Mr. Davidson loaned and installed the lighting equipment and the Rex management went far beyond their contract when they provided a Jackie Coogan feature.

This party is an annual feature of the Legion’s observance of Christmas and is made possible by the public’s generous patronage of Legion activities, which patronage the new officers sincerely hope will continue the coming year.

**1934**

### **“College Students Home for Holidays”**

The first break in the school year for colleges gave opportunity of combining Christmas, New Year and end of quarter vacation and brought students home to enjoy the Yuletide around the home hearths and make the Christmas time more happy because of their return.

Thirteen students arrived to spend Christmas from Montana higher institutions of learning and two came from out of state for the holidays.

Among those who arrived home were Harvey Keene from Montana State College at Bozeman; Irma Mae Daniels, Viola Barker and Vance Bronson from the Billings Normal; Jean Kirley, Howard Weiton, Harold Marks, Willard Lofgren and Don Hollaway from the University at Missoula; Wilda Plymale from the Dillon Normal College; Margaret Madden from St. Vincent’s Academy in Helena; and Stanley Smazal from the Creighton University in Omaha , Nebraska and Joseph Lasby from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

### **“Telephone Company is Now in New Office”**

With the exception of the country lines, all the telephones in the Townsend District have been changed to the new non-ring system and the telephone office equipment installed in the new office. The actual move from the old quarters in the Power-Townsend building to the new office on Cedar Street was made this week and Miss Mabel Moffett, local manager, is located in her rooms just back of the public office.

With the installation of the new non-ring system and the change to a public office on the ground floor, Townsend District has taken a step forward in the progress of an up-to-date telephone service. Work is being done on the country lines to improve them today.

**1945**

### **“World War II News”**

## **“Another Faithful Star Writer Sends HGoliday Greetings”**

Dec. 12, 1945

Mendoro, P.I.

Dear Staff,

I've been receiving the “Star” regularly ever since I've been in the service. Since I've been overseas, they've been two or three months late in arriving, but I enjoyed them as much as if they'd been hot off the press. I can never thank you enough for sending the “Star” so faithfully. I always got news out of it that wasn't sent in letters and clippings.

I expect to start my return to the states the latter part of this month or the early part of next month, so I wish you'd discontinue sending my “Star”. By the time the current issues would arrive here, I hope to be home in good old Townsend.

When the war ended, this division was on the high seas, coming here to Mendoro for a rest after participating in the Okinawa Campaign. Prior to the war's end announcement, we first heard of the bombing of Japan with the Atomic Bomb. So it was quite an eventful journey.

We were scheduled to hit Yokahama, when we were to invade Japan as Okinawa was classed as a bloody campaign. I dread to think of what it would have been there in Japan proper.

When news of the war's end first came, I was down in the hold sleeping. Everyone that heard the announcement was shouting and hammering on the ventilation vents. So in a matter of a few seconds the whole ship was awake. When I first awoke, I thought we'd been torpedoed. There was very little sleep the remainder of that night as everyone was so excited. They were either crowded down in the sleeping compartments or up on deck, talking and wondering if it were really true, that the war had finally ended. In all the excitement, it is wonder that some of us didn't light up a cigarette top side. We were still pretty uneasy, as our convoy was being pursued by a wolf pack of Jap subs.

I've rattled on long enough, so I'll close. Thanks again for sending the “Star” so faithfully. I hope to be seeing you all soon.

Don Smith

P.S. – Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I still can't realize that is nearly Christmas again

**1951**

## **“Two Townsend Men Promoted to Captaincy”**

Two young men, Edward D'Arcy, son of Mrs. Mary D'Arcy of Townsend and Maurice D. Guffey, son of A.V. Guffey, formerly of Townsend have been promoted from Lieutenant to Captain, according to information extended “The Star”.

Captain D'Arcy of the U.S. Air Corps is stationed at Rapid City, So. Dakota and is in Townsend with his wife, the former Carmen Clare, to spend the holidays.

Captain Guffey, who recently returned to the States after fourteen months of active service in Korea, is now in San Francisco where he is stationed at the Presideo. After returning from Korea, he came on to Townsend to join his wife, the former Dorothy Ballard, and two

sons and to take a well-earned 30-day leave following which the family went on to San Francisco. He received his promotion a few days ago.

### **“Crow Creek News”**

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Turman, Wm. Kitto and James Kitto of Helena motored to Billings on Friday on a business mission.

Mrs. Verna Hensley had all of her children, except one, with her on Christmas day. Mr. and Mrs. James Southwood came from Spokane, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hensley of Townsend and from the valley, Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Hensley and family and her sons Torbet, George, Joe and Tom who live at home.

The Ray Horne family spent Christmas Day with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Abe Fandrich and family in Townsend.

### **1962**

### **“Jack Sautters Are Winners in Lighting Contest”**

This week Kenneth O’Dell, president of Townsend Rotary Club, announces winners in the annual Rotary Christmas Home Decoration contest. Judging was completed Sunday night with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sautter winning first place, the Fred Blacks, second and Clarence Millers, third.

There were so many nice decorations judges had a hard time deciding how to place them, and named the following homes as honorable mention: Glenn Perry, Mary Connors, Charles Adams, F.L. Olsen and Sherlock Nave.

Prizes paid out by the Rotary Club were: Sautters, \$15; Blacks, \$10; and Millers \$5. Rotary members are to be commended for sponsoring such a worthwhile event year after year.

### **“Crow Creek News”**

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Ferrat and boys spent Christmas Day at the home of Mrs. Ferrat’s parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lemon in Manhattan. Mike Ferrat stayed and will spend his school vacation with his grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Hossfeld, Sr., spent the holiday with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Hossfeld, Jr. and family in Townsend.

Guests of the Albert Smiths were their son, Oppie Smith and family and Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Baze of Radersburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Rowland Kimpton entertained Christmas for Mr. and Mrs. Ry Ward of Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kimpton and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Kimpton and boys and Mr. and Mrs. Evan Kimpton.