

COMMUNITY TREE ALIGHT TONIGHT

Will Usher in Christmas for Which All Preparations Have Been Made

POOR REMEMBERED

Baskets Distributed by Fraternal Organizations—Elaborate Musical Programs Arranged by Churches

Alexandria awaits the coming of Christmas with the knowledge that everything has been done in advance to make the holiday season one of pleasure for all that are within its limits. The poor of the city have been well looked after, the churches and Sunday schools have provided elaborate programs for services and entertainments and many private entertainments will be given during the coming week.

Alexandria's big public celebration takes place tonight when thousands of its citizens are expected to gather about the community Christmas tree at the corner of Washington and Queen street. The big fir was placed in position today and the committees are at work stringing the limbs with multi-colored electric lights and festoons of tinsel and Christmas decorations.

The tree will be lighted at 7:20 o'clock tonight and also on Saturday and Sunday nights. A large chorus composed of members of all the choirs of the city and pupils of the Alexandria High School will sing Christmas carols and pictures depicting scenes from the life of Christ will be thrown upon a screen.

Church services will be held in many of the churches tomorrow. The Second Baptist and the three Methodist Churches hold services at 6 a. m. and the three Episcopal churches at 11 a. m. Masses at St. Mary's Catholic church will be commenced at 5 o'clock and continued every half hour until 11 o'clock.

Abundant provisions have been made for the poor of the city. The charities of Alexandria Lodge of Elks are perhaps the most extensive of the public organizations. 150 baskets were sent out this morning to the poor of the city. Each basket was supplied with a ham, sack of flour, coffee, sugar, vegetables, bread, rice, fruit, and a pound cake. The committee in charge consisted of Exalted Ruler, James B. Martin; Nicholas J. Lawler, the Rev. Edgar Carpenter, James B. Fitzgerald, James Callan, Harry Simpson, and A. D. Deeton.

Sunday school celebrations of the various churches are now in progress, the first being held yesterday when the children of the Chapel of the Good Shepherd had their Christmas tree. The Sunday schools of St. Paul's Episcopal and Christ Episcopal hold their celebrations this afternoon at 4:30 p. m.

Following are some of the musical programs of the churches:

CHRIST CHURCH

Saturday, 11 A. M. Processional Hymn, "Angels From the Realms of Glory," Smart. Venite in E-flat, Robinson. Te Deum in A. Fay. Benedictus in G. Cratch. Hymn, "O come all ye Faithful." Reading. Gloria Tibi in D, Garrett.

Hymn, "Calm on the Listening Eve." Dykes. Offertory, "O sing to God," Gounod. Sanctus in F. Wesley. Hymn, "Bread of the World," Hodg-es.

Gloria in Excelsis, Old Chant. Recessional Hymn, "O little Town of Bethlehem," Redner. CHOR.

Mrs. Pickett, Mrs. Catts, Mrs. Slaymaker, Misses Ruth Nagel, Mary Naged, Mary Bontz, Mildred Penn Louise Butts, May Barkley, Inez Wade, Lucille Taylor, Dora Henry, Sarah Cox, Marie Gasson, Carol Leadbeater, Gretta Ludwig. Mrs. Lindsey, Misses Mary Grigg, Caroline Emerson, Venie Williams, Mrs. Petty.

Messrs: Dr. Berry, Iwing Furr, Jones Cox, Cassius Meade, Walter Foster, Mr. Solomon, Jack Leadbeater, Stuart Brown, Will Wells; Mrs. Chas. T. Lennon, Organist; James E. Bagley, director.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

Saturday 11 A. M. Processional Hymn, No. 49, "Adeste Fides." Venite in F, Schnecker. Gloria Patri, Schnecker. Te Deum in B-flat, Baumbach. Jubilate in E-flat, Wanen. Introit Anthem, Hymn No. 55, "Calm on the Listening Ear of Night," Rogers.

Kyrie, Ancient. Gloria Tibi in G, Paxton. Hymn, No. 57. Offertory Anthem, "It came upon the Midnight Clear," Hammond. Offertory Ascription, Doxology. Sanctus, Stauner. Hymn, No. 231. Gloria in Excelsis, old chant. Recessional Hymn, No. 58. CHOR:

Soloists: Mrs. Harrie White, soprano, Mrs. Sherman B. Fowler, alto; Mr. Wilbur Maddox; tenor; Mr. Wilmer Waller, bass; Miss Caroline Kast, violinist; Mr. Sherman B. Fowler, organist and director, and a chorus of thirty voices.

GRACE CHURCH.

Saturday Holy Communion, 7:30 a. m. Services 11 A. M. Processional Hymn, No. 56, "Christians, awake!" Venite and Gloria Patri, by Church-ill.

Psalms, by Churchill. Te Deum, by Arthur Sullivan. Jubilate, by Sullivan. Introit Hymn, No. 51, "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing." Kyrie, by Sullivan. Gloria Tibi, Chant 378. Hymn before Sermon, No. 58, "O, Little Town of Bethlehem." Gloria Patri after Sermon, Chant 24.

Offertory, "Behold, I bring you Good Tidings," by Clare. Sanctus, Chant 412. Communion Hymn, 225. Gloria in Excelsis, Chant 438. Nunc Dimittis, Chant 260. Recessional Hymn, No. 30, "Angels, from the Realms of Glory." Members of the choir—Mr. Wm. J. Wilkinson, Director; Miss Stella V. Moore, organist; Mr. J. M. Duncan, jr., crucifer; Mr. N. E. Simpson, librarian. Master Henry Wilkinson, Louis Kerns, Herman Rohr.

Misses Susie Pughman, Mary A. Entwisle, Phoebe J. Deahl, Bessie Phillips, Florence Long, Mary Moore, Harriett Spofford, Ethel McCuen, Mae Starnell, Leslie Cox. Mrs. Chas. J. Deahl, Mrs. Wheat, Mrs. Louis Baker, Mrs. Geo. Roop, Mrs. Frommelt. Messrs. Wm. A. Ferguson, Chas. J. Deahl, Horace Crump, E. T. Estes, Frank T. King. Sunday School celebration Tuesday, 28th, 7:30 p. m.

Continued on page Four

A VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS.

Written by Dr. Clement Clark Moore in 1822.

'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 hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there; The children were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads; And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap, Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap;

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter, I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter Away to the window I flew like a flash Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash. The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow Gave the luster of midday to objects below, When, what to my wondering eyes should appear But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer With a little old driver, so lively and quick, I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came, And he whistled and shouted and called them by name: "Now Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!

On, Comet! on, Cupid; on, Donder and Blitzen! To the top of the porch; to the top of the wall! Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!" As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly, When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky, So up the housetop the coursers they flew, With a sleigh full of toys and St. Nicholas, too And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.

As I drew in my head and was turning around, Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound. He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot; A bundle of toys he had flung on his back, And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack. His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples how merry! His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry! His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow, And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow;

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth, And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath; He had a broad face and a little round belly, That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly. He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf, And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself; A wink of his eye and a twist of his head, Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but straight to his work, And filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk, And laying his finger aside of his nose, And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose. He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle, And away they all flew like the down of a thistle; But I heard him exclaim ere he drove out of sight,

"HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!"

COURT NOTES

In the circuit court in vacation today Hugh M. Adeock qualified as administrator of the estate of his father, Robert W. Adeock.

In the corporation court, George S. French, qualified as administrator of the estate of his daughter, Georgiana M. French.

CHRISTMAS DANCE

Alexandria Lodge No. 758 B. P. O. Elks

Elks Auditorium Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1915

9 P. M. to 1 A. M.

Gentlemen \$1.00. Ladies 50c

CHRISTMAS IN WALL STREET

Every Class Will Share in Gains in Great American City

DECIDED CONTRAST

Financial Institutions Have Already Distributed Gifts or Bonuses to Employees.

New York, Dec. 24.—Christmas in the financial district will offer many striking and happy contrasts to the same period a year ago, when Wall Street had barely emerged from the gloom precipitated by four and a half months of suspended activity on the Stock Exchange.

Banks, trust companies, private banking houses, brokerage firms and institutions of all kinds have profited very generally by the boom in stocks, which began with movements in "war brides" early in the year, and sent those and kindred securities to prices undreamed of a few months before.

While much of the advance registered by those and other mercurial issues has been forfeited, and countless "paper profits" have also profited, Wall Street has been, and is still, very busy, and attendants say prosperity is being shared by all, from the humblest "runner" to the mightiest captain of finance or industry.

Many of the financial institutions and banking houses have already distributed gifts or bonuses among their employees for the year, and in this process many pension funds have been strengthened and numerous "profit-sharing" plans have assumed substantial proportions. Gifts to employees have averaged 10 to 15 per cent of annual salaries, and one trust company, long known for its generosity, is said to have given as much as 50 per cent.

All the exchanges have taken up subscriptions for their employees, and it is far to assume that individual disbursements will be larger than any of recent years. Last year the time of recent years. Last year the Stock Exchange, for good and sufficient reasons, refrained from asking its members to subscribe to the Christmas fund, but drew on its private funds, so that the several hundred employees might not be utterly deprived of some holiday cheer.

Celebrations, formal and impromptu will be held on all the exchanges after the close of business tomorrow. The Produce Exchange, following its usual custom will have an enormous Christmas tree on the trading floor, and the poor children of Lowe, Manhattan will receive gifts of toys and more material things such as clothes, shoes and other articles of apparel.

Some idea of the extent to which Wall Street has profited by the general prosperity of the country may be gathered from the fact that thus far this year sales of stock aggregate more than 173,000,000 shares, against barely 47,000,000 for the corresponding period last year, while bond sales total over \$917,000,000, against \$455,000,000.

STEAMED OYSTERS AT JACOB BRILL'S, FOOT OF KING STREET.

SINKING OF JAPANESE SHIP

U-Boat's Action is Disturbing Officials in Washington

AWAITING REPORTS

American Subject Among Passengers Rescued From Steamer in the Mediterranean

Washington, Dec. 24.—Following the receipt of unofficial advices that the Japanese liner Yasaka Maru, with an American citizen aboard, was sunk by a submarine in the Mediterranean, the State Department instituted prompt inquiries to learn the facts from official sources.

A report is awaited from Ambassador Page at London before official action is taken by this Government.

The State Department will not act until it has received official reports showing the nationality of the attacking submarine, and showing whether the Japanese liner was torpedoed without warning, as charged by agents of the line, or was attacked while trying to escape.

If the vessel was torpedoed without warning by a submarine flying the German flag, as reported in press dispatches, officials admitted that the submarine controversy with Germany would be reopened.

Definite pledges were made by Ambassador von Bernstorff that no more liners would be torpedoed without warning. In the light of these pledges officials indicated that Germany would be expected to make prompt disavowal if it is shown that the submarine commander gave no warning. The fact that no lives were lost, however, encouraged officials to believe that at the new submarine case would not become a grave issue.

Another angle of the situation arising from the sinking of the Japanese liner that came in for discussion was that the vessel remained afloat an hour after being torpedoed, permitting time for the rescue of passengers and crew.

One of the arguments advanced by the Austro-Hungarian Government in defense of the Ancona sinking, was that the vessel was not torpedoed until after it had been stationary for 50 minutes. There was plenty of time given for the escape of passengers and crew, Austria argued but the loss of life was due to the panic that ensued on the Ancona.

If reports are confirmed that all on board the Yasaka Maru were enabled to escape, when the vessel remained afloat only 10 minutes longer than the time given the Ancona, officials admitted that Austria's position might seem to be substantiated at least to an extent that would give the Austrian Government grounds for reiterating the argument made in its Admiralty statement.

London, Dec. 24.—The new Japanese liner Yasaka Maru, which was sunk in the eastern Mediterranean Tuesday by a submarine while the steamer was on her way from London to Japan with 120 passengers and a crew of 10 aboard, was sent to the bottom without warning, according to a report received from Pgrt Said from the agents of the owners.

All of those on board the ship, including one American passenger, W.

(Continued on Page 4.)

JAPAN MAY COME TO THE RESCUE

No Surprise Would Be Caused If Mikado Sent Army to Europe

MIGHT GUARD CANAL

Great Excitement in Tokyo When News Was Received of Sinking of The Yasaka Maru

Washington, Dec. 24.—Although the reports concerning the sinking of the Japanese liner, Yasaka Maru, by an Austrian or German submarine in the Mediterranean are too meager to make it plain whether it will complicate the submarine controversy so far as the United States is concerned, there is another phase of the case which is the subject of no little speculation and comment.

This concerns the course which Japan will pursue through the rest of the present war. Dispatches say great excitement was caused in Tokyo by the sinking. This is the first time in the present conflict that the horrors of modern sea war by submarines have been brought home to the Japanese.

It is believed in some quarters that the sinking of this liner will result in pressure on the Japanese government by sentiment at home to get into the war on the land side. Just at this time, when the Germans and Turks are said to be ready to strike a blow at the Suez canal, a blow which if successful means a tremendous increase of German prestige in Asia, it would cause no surprise if there was serious consideration given to the dispatch of Japanese reinforcements to the aid of the English on the Suez front.

WANTS PROTECTION

John Armstrong Chaloner Asks For an Injunction

Washington, Dec. 24.—Declaring that he is afraid to come to Washington to testify in a suit for damages which he has pending in the District Supreme Court against a local newspaper and which may be reached for trial in January, because he fears he may be kidnapped and taken to New York State, where he has been adjudged a lunatic, John Armstrong Chaloner, author of "Who's Looney Now?" and of "Robbery Under Law, or the Battle of the Millionaires," filed a petition yesterday, addressed to Justice Stafford, asking protection of the court if he comes to this city.

He asks that immunity be made to cover five days before the suit is called and five days after its completion, so that he may return in safety to his home.

Chaloner requests the court to protect him from being made a party to any action which may be brought touching his sanity or any other action except for crime. He also requests the court to include in its order a prohibition against any person apprehending or taking him into custody for the purpose of returning him to an insane asylum. He desires especially that the injunction shall be directed to any member of the Chaloner family (the petitioner's name formerly was Chanler and to the representatives of the Bloomington Asylum, New York.

A DIAMOND RING SPECIAL FOR DEC. 24, ONLY
10 PER CENT OFF
Any diamond ring in our stock priced from \$15. to \$400 Your opportunity to own quality diamonds at a reasonable price.
R. C. ACTON & SONS
Jewelers and Silversmiths
606 King Street

CANDIES
HUYLERS
80c
LIGGETTS
TAYLOR PHARMACY
The Rexall Store

At ABE L. COHEN'S
Until Xmas Eve
Raincoats guaranteed \$6.00 value \$3.95
Boston Double grip garter 19c
Lion brand shirts regular \$1.50 value \$1.19
Three 50c neckties \$1.
Three 25c neckties 69c
SUITS
A special bought to sell at \$20 \$15.90
A splendid assortment of \$15 values at \$11.95
A few \$20. overcoats .. \$15.90
418 KING STREET

Take a Look At This Genuine Bargain!
To close an estate Washington owner has authorized me to sell for \$1,250.00 Cash that desirable two story frame dwelling 1424 Duke Street. It cost \$2,500.00, contains six bright rooms and bath, and rents for \$16.00 per month.
JOHN D. NORMOYLE
Cor. King and Royal St.

MEATS
For that Xmas DINNER
Always the best, but for this occasion and unusually tasty assortment. Complete line of poultry for the Christmas table.
AARON O'DELL
East end of market

Telephone Your Xmas Orders for
Family Wines and Liquors
To
RAMMEL CAFE
EGG NOGG
For Family Use
\$1.00 per quart delivered
Bell 169. Home 132