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to read. You are shocked; your blood runs cold . . . and your mind is poisoned with suspicions you never harboured before. That is the anonymous poisonpen letter, sometimes the slayer of innocent lives, which curses our social life from time to time. The Northamptonshire village of trchester has recently been having a second dose of it. Scurrilous, obscene, it descended on fourteen people there — mostly

What makes people write such letters? It may be insanity, a perverted "moral" sense which exists, a bitter jealousy of somelack, a morbid desire for revenge for some imagined hurt, even the hope of renewing a broken asation writes Arnold Wareing

villagers dreaded the postman's

At Bristol Assizes, some years ago, a married man was jailed for three months after pleading guilty to publishing defamatory libels concerning a single woman whom the prosecuting counsel described as "of quite un-blemished character." Some of the letters he had sent to her. some to other people; and for a time she herself was even suspected of having written them!

Occasional Kiss The man's own counsel said that he met her as a member of Methodist church, and they became friendly. As no woman other than his wife had ever taken an interest in him before, he was flattered. The friendship al kiss, but eventually his wife with the perverted idea of getting the young woman to re-sume the friendship that he had written these letters

One was to a married woman, making allegations concerning her husband and the girl; another to a church official telling him that she was saying she received love letters from him. Imagine the shock to her, an earnest church worker, when she and others were questioned by the pastor at a vestry meeting. Fortunately, the man had the courage to confess and apologize. But the irony is that his conduct was likely to have the reverse effect he desired on any normal-minded young woman. Poison-penners caused an immense amount of unhappiness during the war. The Bishop of Sheffild was moved to protest that "many soldiers have had their lives made miserable by wicked letters, often from rela-

ing allegations which we fre-A young lance - corporal shot himself after receiving a letter stating that his twenty-year-old bride was living with another man, when actually she was staying with her father, planning a letter which read: "I have made | tries too. Last year a series of great mistake. I think this is the finest way to finish it. I can-

matters. I don't think I'll funk it, although I want to live. Good-His stricken young wife said:
"Twe loved no one else but him.

sences from home were not due,
as he claimed, to political en-Some cruel fiend wrote to him and Bill had no suspicions till

he received it." When an R.A.S.C. man station-Northern Ireland was began to arrive charged in a London police court

while on leave, the Director of Public Prosecutions said: "This girl's death appears to have been caused by anonymous letters. She was a perfectly honest girl.' He had received, the soldier stated, a number of letters making accusations against her. When he told her, she denied them. The night before the tragedy his mother told her she was "no good," and there was a quarrel. The next day, before returning he expected her to "play the game" or he would shoot her. She said she had always been

faithful to him and he would

of them should have been in the

never regret marrying her. "I then picked up my rifle and ed the rifle at her side, and before I knew what I was doing fired a shot at her," he said. Think of the tragedy wrought in those two young lives by these foul, smear-letters. The writer

> dock rather than the hasty, mis guided soldier. The gloating vindictiveness of some poison-penners is beyond belief. A sixteen-year-old girl home by letters from othe girls signing themselves "The Gang." One said: "We are going to make your life a hell. It will be fun watching you."

> What a distorted idea of "fun! In a Wiltshire case, letters to a husband were written in illi-terate language, deliberately cho sen, and in disguised handwriting to convey the impression that they were from a villager

On returning from the seaside she tried to telephone him; but One read: "She comes down to a secretary said he was en-gaged. She took the next train village got up that ridiculous and vulgar with er posh dress to Paris and stayed in their and nakedness for orl the men to talk dirty talk about her, flat all night, hoping he would return. But he never came. Back which doant surprise nobody nome, exhausted and nervous, knowin what she is." Another she told her maid: "He was with "Sir, whole vilage pities you but nother woman-I know it now!" ols you in great contempt to al-Next day she bought the relow a low creature like the old bit do say she wore fool to poison-letters had done their work - and some at least, the | to do its diabolical work secretly marry you as you be not nearly so rich as she did think." police thought, might have been is tragedy likely to result. What sort of mind could laboriously concoct such letters to harm the union of a man and Where Are Those Missing Crown Jewels?

woman?
At Every Social Level When a stxty-year-old barone was charged at Nairobi with having shot dead at the wheel of his car Lord Erroll, member the Kenya Legislature and High Constable of Scotland—a charge, vehemently denied, on which he was acquitted—he was alleged to have stated to the police that he received three anonymous letters at the Muthaiga Club. "Do you know your wife and Lord Erroll have been staying at Carberry's house at Nyeri to-

failed then, many experts be lieve that a further intensive search might succees to-day. gether?" Another, received per-haps only the day before: "There The startling story began in is no fool like an old fool. What 1646, when Charles I was being taken to London as a prisoner. are you going to do about it?" During the journey from New-So even the outskirts of Empire castle the unhappy sovereign was are not immune from the pest which afflicts every social level lodged for a time in the old manor house at Knaresborough, a at home, from society to subur-Yorkshire market town. bia and village.

Here he was required to draw up a list of his regalia, so that poison-letters drove Mme. Yyon-Chevalier to kill her husband, the items might be checked when he handed them over. Dr. Pierre Chevallier, a member And historians have since of the French Government. At made the intriguing discovery Orleans, scandalmongers had hinted to her that his long abthat the list omitted various valu-

gagements, but to intrigues with Coronation Relics another woman. At home with So the question arises - what her two children, she ignored did King Charles do with them? them. Then the insidious letters For nearly 300 years a tradition has persisted that they were "Find out what your husband taken away secretly by some of with murdering his young bride | does when he is not sleeping at his most trusted followers to-wait his expected release and return

> Neither the King nor his supporters anticipated that he would lose his head on the execution block, and belief is given to the Knaresborough tradition by the knowledge that some article from the regalia did mysteriously Though Parliament ordered the destruction of the Crown Jewels, certain objects

Safeguard for Charters—The huge combination elevator-safe,

above, is being installed at the National Archives Building in

Washington, D.C., to protect the nation's most precious documents.

The Bill of Rights, the Constitution and the Declaration of Inde-

pendence, sealed in air-tight transparent envelopes will rest

in a helium-filled case on the table of the elevator. The table

can be lowered from viewing position in approximately one

minute, and sealed behind the massive five-ton doors of the

50-ton bomb, fire, burglary and water resistant safe.

Perhaps Mine-Detectors Will Find Them!

Will the approaching Corona- | members of the Yorkshire Arch-

There is only one thing to do

disclose his or her identity?

aeological Society made the start-

ling announcement that there ex-

isted an old map showing where

a number of the glittering arti-

cles were hidden! Drawn on

parchment, it was said to have

been found among a collection of oddments bought for a few shil-

lings at a sale in Knaresboroug

market place fifty years earlier.

Knaresborough Castle, and ac-

cording to this remarkable docu-

ment the vanished items had

been put down the castle well.

able by the Roundheads, how-

ever, and they did the job so

thoroughly that the site of the

The search for the map reveal-

ing its location thus became vi-

The original finder had made no

to some of his friends, and after

his death it had disappeared.

Nevertheless, the trail was fol-

lowed with the help of relatives

effects had been distributed. The

parts of the country— before petering out in Manchester.

Some of the experts who un-

But they were so certain of the

spent many hours and not a lit-

It showed a rough outline of

his Paris flat," they urged her.

tion of Queen Elizabeth be pre-ceded by another quest for the

lost Crown Jewels? Shortly. be-

fore the last Coronation, in 1937,

were hot on the trail of part of

the regalia of King Charles I,

and, although the treasure hunt

able objects known to have been

among the Crown Jewels at that

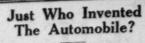
were spirited away. The Ampulla, a vessel for holding holy oil at coronations, was now surreptitiously carried off before it could be broken up and was brought out again whe Charles II was crowned. It is the oldest piece of the present Coronation plate and will be used in the ceremony at Westminster Ab-

Many single stanes from Charles I's regalia were also acuired by ardent Royalists and later incorporated into the new regalia. So what is more likely, ask antiquarians, than that the Martyred Monarch arranged for part of his Crown Jewels to be hidden until the arrival of the more propitious times which he expected? He was an astute sovereign in some ways, and it is hardly likely that he relin-

quished the whole of his regalia.

Parchment Map

But this is only the first chapter in the story. In 1936 some



The scholar can go back any distance he pleases in the search (for the first automible). Few reach farther into history than

Homer's Iliad. To quote the Pope (Vulcan) labour claim'd: Full twenty tripods for his hall he framed,

That, placed on living wheels of massy gold, (Wondrous to tell) instinct with spirit roll'd From place to place, around the blest abodes, Self-moved, obedient to the

beck of gods. Unfortunately Homer does not tell us how Vulacn's tricycles were powered, but it is safe to assume that they, too, ran on steam. Leonardo da Vinci had plans for a sort of automobile in the fifteenth century. It was cer-tainly not designed to run on gasoline. The Dutch saw a wind carriage running at The Hague in 1600, a two-master with square sails and a passenger capacity of 28—under which load it did about 20 miles per hour. A Frenchman named Du Quet designed a windmill car in

1714, and a Swiss clergyman. J. H. Genevois, had a similar scheme on paper in 1760. But if we restrict ourselves, as we must, to an internal-combustion engine powering a roadable passenger-carrying vehicle then the Frenchman Etienne Lenoir must be conceded a place of honor for he built such a vehicle in the year of 1862 and ran it from Paris to Joinvillee-Pont. . . . He did not use a. liquid fuel, although his car was

in other essentials entirely qualified. with poison-letters; ignore their contents, take them at once to The earliest roadable vehicle powered by an internal-compolice. Don't let their evil insinuations rankle and fester in the roleum fuel electrically ignited. mind. If they are of any worth, appears to have been that first run by the German-born Austrian, Siegfried Marcus, in 1865, The police usually spare no and if one man can be consipains to trace and trap the writer dered the absolute inventor of and bring the scandal to an end.
Only when the poison is allowed the gasoline automobile, Marcus is probably the man. His claim suffers in one particular when compared with those of Benz and Daimler: Marcus was little interested in the automobile, and although his experiments with t extended over a period of more than ten years, he never pressed onward, and was in fact almost totally indifferent, if not hos-

tile, to suggestions that he market the car. Gottlieb Daimler and Karl Benz are most frequently credited with the first production of internal-combustion-engined automobiles basically as we

know them today. . . . And what of America? Henry Ford did not, then, who after Mr. Ford did not invent it, although his contribution was massive and earth-shaking. Henry Ford saw, before anyone else came close to seeing it, that the

Subterranean Passage Since that time further discov well was completely obliterated. eries have been made which lend additional colour to the tradition of Knaresborough Castle. Excavations have revealed hitherto tal, and sixteen years ago the anknown features of the fortress. For instance, archaeologists have found a subterranean passage leading under the former courtyard. This has raised hopes that the well may ultimately be located, even without the help of the finder, among whom his

Now it has been suggested that electrical detector devices, like trail led from Yorkshire to other those used in probing mine fields during the war, might help to wrest the royal treasure from its secret place in this Yorkshire dertook the search are now dead. stronghold. It might be a fitting sequel to

Crown Jewels were found before the Coronation next year.

automobile should logically be developed in the direction of mass transportation.
others made great contr Packard, Elwood Haynes, the

But in the matter of the very first American gasoline automobile the Duryea brothers, Charles and Frank, have the soundest claim.—From "The Kings of the Road," by Ken W. Purdy.

### They Got Tough With The Drunk Drivers

A federal judge in the Midwest, former Gov. Luther W. Youngdahl of Minnesota this week called the American who drives his automobile while he is under the influence of alco-hol "as great a menace to "e gidnity of human life as com-

Judge Youngdahl went further, stating that the nation's traffic safety record could be "revolutionized overnight" with the saving of thousands of human lives if sufficiently stiff penalties, including license revoc..tion, were assessed against the drunken driver and his companon-menaces to life and limb, the reckless driver and the speeder. Length of the revocation period seriousness of the offense

There is no doubt that Judge sense. The only question is whether the suggested program goes far enough, or whether included.

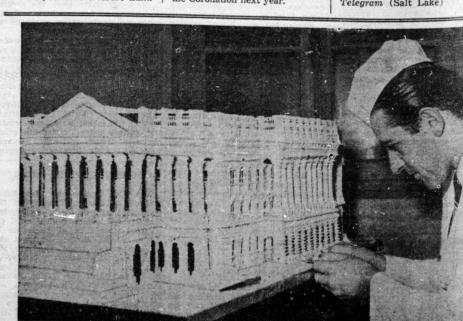
Every Utahn remembers the furor a couple of years back stirred by a Salt Lake City judge's policy of jailing all persons found driving without an unexpired Utah driver's license. There was a veritable tempest of argument over the justice of meting out a five-day jail sentence for what was considered a comparatively " minor" offense by some people. That question aside, however, there was no argument at all over the EFFEC-TIVENESS of the program.

More people came into the state drivers' license bureaus in a week or two than had appeared in a period of years. Many people who had knowingly driven for months or years without a they could "get by," rushed in to take the prescribed test and obtain a proper license.

H. L. Leatham, head of the drivers license division, was moved to speculate on the effect of a similar program, with appropriately stiffer penalties, directed at the most dangerous of sins-drunken and reckless driving, speeding and so

"Too many people can pay a fine without it hurting too much," he said. "Young people, who are some of our worst offine: their parents pay it vervone. I think our drivers who get care less about their driving habits or about mixing alcohol and drivtitude if they KNEW a jail sentence would face them if they were caught."

There was considerable differpeople in jail for failure to have a license, but there should be ing the drivers who endanger ing the lives of everyone on the highway. If such a program ly enforced, it would surely be a 300-year-old mystery if the lost our citizens at stake, it is surely worth a try.—Deseret News and Telegram (Salt Lake)



Icing Ike's Cake—Dabbing finishing touches to his five-by-three-foot-square model of the United States Capitol Building, French Riviera pastry specialist, Gino Bastardi, of Nice, France, gets it ready to present to President-Elect Dwight Eisenhower. Bastardi began work on the cake two months ago. He has made edible models of other structures including the Eiffel Tower.



Mrs. X. found it a difficult ques-

ack I am sure my happ

happiness-individual happ

The joy we feel when someone

we love, and did not expect to

Or a wire or a telephone ca

announcing the arrival of an ex-

Or those wonderful words-

"She is out of danger"-when

someone very dear to us has

A Christmas card - just

brings great happiness.

know one is remembered-often

But don't forget-the Christ-

mas cards one sends, the friendly

call one makes, the little unex-

pected kindnesses one passes

along, they, too, bring happiness to the giver. "All who joy would

win; must share it—for happi-ness was born a twin."

Perhaps that is actually the

for ever? What a lovely world this would be if everyone, every-

where, was trying his or her best to bring happiness to others. No

more wars, no more starving

peoples, no more back-biting, no more hurt feelings, no more trying to put over a smart deal. And, I hope, no more foolish, ex-

pensive presents—spending \$5 on a present for Mabel because we

happen to know that Mabel's pre

sent to us last year must have cost \$5 at least. If it were not for

pected baby.

passed a crisis.

know," she said, "but thinking

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL! To everyone who reads this column, that is my sincere wish. And to all those who never even look at it—I wish hem a very happy Christmas too -even though they won't even

Having written those few words I paused . . . and wondered. If my wish to you is to be fulfilled what would you consider a happy Christmas to be? Happiness is a relative quality - it can mean many things to many people, and no two people have the same idea as to what con-stitutes happiness for them. So I egan making inquiries. I said to Mrs K.—"What is your definition of a happy Christmas?" 



#### Bay and Rosemary Christmas Tradition

Bay and rosemary have also been represented among our Christmas plants from time immemorial. An ancient writer says: "Rosemarie and Baies that are most faire were stuck about th houses and the churches the time of Christmas."

Accoring to tradition it was the bay tree, with its lance-like leaves and purple berries, that sheltered the holy family during a thunder-storm. Accordingly it was believed that light-

ing will never strike a bay tree.

The association of the rosemary plant with Christmas also cret of the Christmas joy goe sback to the early child-hood of our Lord, namely to the that we feel but cannot explain—the spirit of kindliness and good fellowship once to another. At no flight into Egypt to escape the wrath and jealousy of King Herod. Its branches are said to so many people doing so much for other folks' happiness. Isn't it a pity Christmas doesn't last have held the little garments of the Christ-Child that were placed upon them by the Virgin Mother. Originally, its flowers were supposed to have been white, but the plant changed the color of its blossoms to lavender so that they might bear the hue of the cloak Mary was wearing at the time. Why You Hang

Holly At Yuletide

Credit The Pagan Druids for that we hadn't planned to spend more than a dollar. But how do credit The Pagan Druids for inspiring one of the nice Christmas customs—decorating with holly The traditional holly for the holidays is widely believed to have had its origin in the Druid practice of bringing holly sprigs indoors. The Druids woodland spirits lived in the holly. Indoors, holly gave the spirits a nice warm place in winter Beautiful Page 19 with the property of the we know Mabel spent \$5 anyway
—it may have been a white
elephant Mabel was passing It is more than likely far more

piece of handmade pottery that Isabel gave. The best Christmas giving is from the heart and not a nice warm place in winter. Besides, the lush green holly and the pocket. Children, we know, the contrast of its red would be far more content with provided beauty that could b simple gifts if they were not surfeited with more expensive revered by men when the sac toys. And yet we continue to load them down . . . Poor old Sant Claus has a lot to answer for. The early Christian church frowned on such pagan customs

Too often expensive gifts to and tried to stamp them out. Ir due time, however, it was fel! our friends cause more embarrassment than the pleasure they give. So don't let us worry if we that some of the customs could be adapted to the new Carist cannot give as much as we would mas conception. Some beautiful legends asso-ciate the holly with Christ. In to someone whose friendship we fact, it is often called the Chris

thorn. One legend depicts the leaf spines as the crown of thorns; the red berries as the

sins of the world and blood of

Christ. Another credits holly

with first springing up from the

said to remain green all winter as a reward for once hiding Christ from his pursuers.

denced in the traditional holiday

The impact of the holly on the

olors, green and red. The

Druids weren't the only people

something special. Pliny, the great Roman historian, insisted holly blossoms caused water to

freeze. Also, that holly thrown at any wild beast would make

it lie down tamely next to the

And so, dear friends of this column. I wish you once again a HAPPY CHRISTMAS - with your family and friends about you. I am quite sure most of you have been working hard to bring joy to others so I know there is

loving token of our esteem.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*



# The Birth of Jesus . . .

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 Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.



### The Visit of the Shepherd . . .

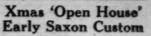
the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shep-herds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.



## The Visit of the Wise Men . . .

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east of Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it s written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda; for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where And when they were come into the house, they saw the

young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened his treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.



At Christmastide, the great hall of the Saxon lord was thrown open to peasant and noble alike—all mingling democratically and exchanging gifts and hearty cheer during a great feast and festivities composed of dance and song. With a tremea-dous burst of shouting, the Yule Log was dragged into the hall and placed upon the open fire pit. These democratic Christmas dance and song. With a tre estivities lasted until the last dying embers of the log.

In the south, prior to the Civil Saxon custom, would soak a los in the cypress swamps to extend the length of their Christma

This unrestrained friendship tween the Saxon lord and his serf at Christmas time has come down to us in the form of the hospitable "Open House."



**《京水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水** 



Faster Than Sound-Artist's sketch, above, is the first published representation of the Convair F-102, which, upon completion, is expected to be the U.S. Air Force's first truly supersonic interceptor. According to Air Force Magazine, in which the drawing first appeared, the delta-wing, single-seat, all-weather interceptor will be under almost entirely automatic control. The pilot's chief duty will be to act as a monitor for the electronic flight and firecontrol equipment.