

LIGHT ON CITY HALL CAROLERS' SIGNAL

Will Flash Forth at 9:15 on Christmas Eve—Festival of Song Planned

A CITY-WIDE CELEBRATION

A huge beam of light flashed across the heavens from atop City Hall at 9:15 o'clock Christmas eve will be the signal to hundreds of singers who have volunteered to join in the rendition of Christmas carols in every section of the city. It will be a veritable festival of song to usher in the greatest holiday of the year.

Details of the Christmas caroling and wreathe-making services have been carefully worked out for weeks under the joint auspices of the Philadelphia Federation of Churches and the Music League. As a result there will be no section of the city where the strains from such noted carols as "Joy to the World," "Adeste Fideles," "Silent Night," "Noel," "Little Town of Bethlehem" and "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," will not be heard. As a matter of fact the carol singers will invade the suburbs as well, the Children's Christmas Cheer Association having made arrangements for a couple of hundred young men and women to tour Delaware County.

The great success attained in the arrangements made for the sectional celebration last Christmas Eve in Germantown caused P. J. Hoone, chairman of the Christmas Carol Committee, to suggest a city-wide observance of the old English custom. And as a result the plan was worked out and a general program arranged through the co-operation of the League and the Church Federation.

Stowolski Has Big Chorus

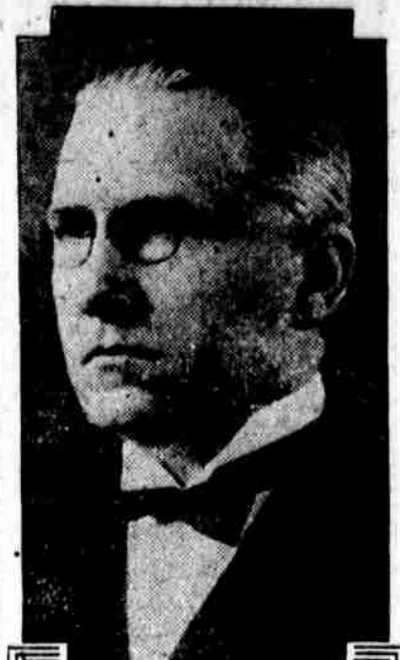
Perhaps the greatest single unit of carolers in the city will be the special chorus of 250 voices which have been gathered by Leopold Stowolski, conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and which will render "Adeste Fideles," "Noel" and "Silent Night" in the five central city squares.

This chorus, composed of 150 singers recruited from the old Philadelphia Orchestra Chorus and 100 additional singers from Dr. Herbert J. Tilly's Strawbridge & Clothier Chorus, will start singing in Franklin Square. Hence the carolers, accompanied by sixty Boy Scouts carrying lanterns hung on tall poles, will proceed to Independence Square, and from there to City Hall plaza, Logan Square and the wind-up will be in Rittenhouse Square.

The rendition of the carols will require a quarter of an hour, and traveling by automobile the progress from one point to another has been estimated at another fifteen minutes, so the time of the approximate appearance at each of the succeeding places should be easy to compute.

Some 300 churches have arranged to have carols sung in their immediate vicinity. One of the larger groups will be the boys' choir from the Pro-Cathedral of St. Mary's, which, led by the

Organizing Carolers



FLORENCE J. HEPPE Chairman of Christmas Carol Committee, which is arranging song festivals throughout the city

choirmaster, Henry Ulrich, will sing in the streets in the vicinity. The choir of Old St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church will follow its usual custom of circling the northeast section of the city, while the Christian Endeavor Society of the Third Presbyterian Church will gather at 3:30 Christmas morning and then proceed through the streets of that section singing their carols.

In Delaware County ten groups of young folks, numbering twenty in each, will set out in automobiles and on foot, first to sing Christmas carols to usher in the advent of Yuletide and afterward to visit some 1500 children, who will be remembered with toys, candy and fruit.

The Germantown Boys' Club celebration will open Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock with the pleasant hour service, held around the open fireplace, when Miss Hannah Morris will tell the story of the nativity. At 11 o'clock a group of young people will meet at the clubhouse and start out through the section singing carols at different points. A magnificent tree has been placed in the junior game room and a space thirty feet long by fifteen feet wide has been transformed into a Christmas garden. Here a freight train will be in operation on a side track and a passenger train speed around the outer rim of the garden to the jollification of the young element, while a lake filled with goldfish, for which Henry Ward has been responsible, and a snow-capped mountain, provided through the efforts of Gilbert Arnold, will form added attractions.

WOMAN BAILED IN GUN PLOT

Detroit, Dec. 23.—(By A. P.)—Mrs. May B. Ford, arrested a fortnight ago on a charge of attempting to engage a professional gunman to kill her husband, N. J. Ford, a former oil baron, a suburb, was released from the county jail today under bond of \$15,000.

STRICKEN SKIPPER GRIEVES FOR MAINE AND MOTHER

Attacked at Wheel, He's Helpless in Hospital While Christmas Dinner Awaits Him at Old Home

Devotion to duty and refusal to leave his post has brought sorrow to Captain Alexander McNamee, who lies in the hospital, unable to go home to spend Christmas with his aged mother, and grief to her heart because she cannot travel the many miles to be with her son while he is ill.

Warned that he was in poor health and liable to be stricken at any moment, he refused to abandon his post even for one trip.

Tossing in pain, his eyes dim with suffering, the Captain, who was stricken ill at the wheel of the steamboat Eriesson yesterday, lies in the Jefferson Hospital, thinking of his eighty-year-old mother, who is waiting for him to come home to eat Christmas dinner with her.

"If only I could have got home," he said dully, his right hand pressing his forehead, his left hand, a lump under the covers, moving back and forth. "It won't be much of a Christmas for me," he continued slowly, as if each word was as painful as the ache of loneliness in his heart. "My mother—she's eighty—and she's too old to make the trip. My sister will be here, I guess, but I want to be at home."

The querulousness of a sick man, the unreasoning insistence of a little boy and the devotion of a man to his old mother mingled in Captain Alexander McNamee's voice as he repeated, "I want to be home."

Stricken at Wheel

It was while he was piloting his boat from Philadelphia to Baltimore by the way of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal yesterday morning that the captain was stricken ill at the wheel.

"My whole left side," he said, mo-

tioning with his right hand, while the left continued its restless moving under the covers.

"It felt like hot irons were pressing down on me, and I didn't know what was the matter. I can move my arm now, and my leg, too," giving a feeble, irritated, and somewhat hopeless kick at the covers, "but there isn't any feeling in them at all."

"For a man like me to be in bed like this—" his voice lowered to a murmur and he tossed and turned in the white hospital bed.

Captain McNamee has been in the employ of the Eriesson Line forty-two years, and for thirty-three years he has been captain of boats on the route from Philadelphia to Baltimore and New York to Baltimore.

"The Penn's my favorite boat," he said, his eyes lighting up, "but she isn't running now." He was trying to nudge a wharf with the Eriesson, just outside the locks to take on coal, when he lost control of the wheel.

"But in spite of his suffering it isn't his illness that worries the captain as much as the fact that the doctor refused to take him to his home in North-east Maine."

"They have a comfortable chair there, where I could sit and be with my mother and brother, and sisters," he said. "But the doctor told me I might have another stroke and that would be the end of me. I guess now I'll be a cripple for life," said the captain as he put his one well hand up to his eyes as if to shut out the sight of himself, compelled to give up his boats and the water which he has loved and fought and struggled with on his way to and from ports and his visits back to the little home he loves so well.

STETSON CO. WORKERS GET \$400,000 IN GIFTS

Annual Christmas Distribution Took Place Today in Auditorium

Christmas presents valued at \$400,000 were distributed by the John B. Stetson Company to its employees at the company's annual Christmas exercises in the Stetson Auditorium today.

The presents ranged from candy to cash bonuses and shares of stock in the Stetson Company and in building and loan associations. J. Howell Cummings, president of the corporation, made the presentations.

Included in the gifts were 2528 turkeys, 1495 pounds of candy, 337 hats, 1018 pairs of gloves, forty-two watches and 400 shares of stock in building and loan associations and the Stetson Company, and many cash gifts.

After the exercises at the factory the sales force of the corporation was entertained at a luncheon at the Bellevue-Stratford by Mr. Cummings.

PRODIGAL IS KILLED AS HE NEARS HOME

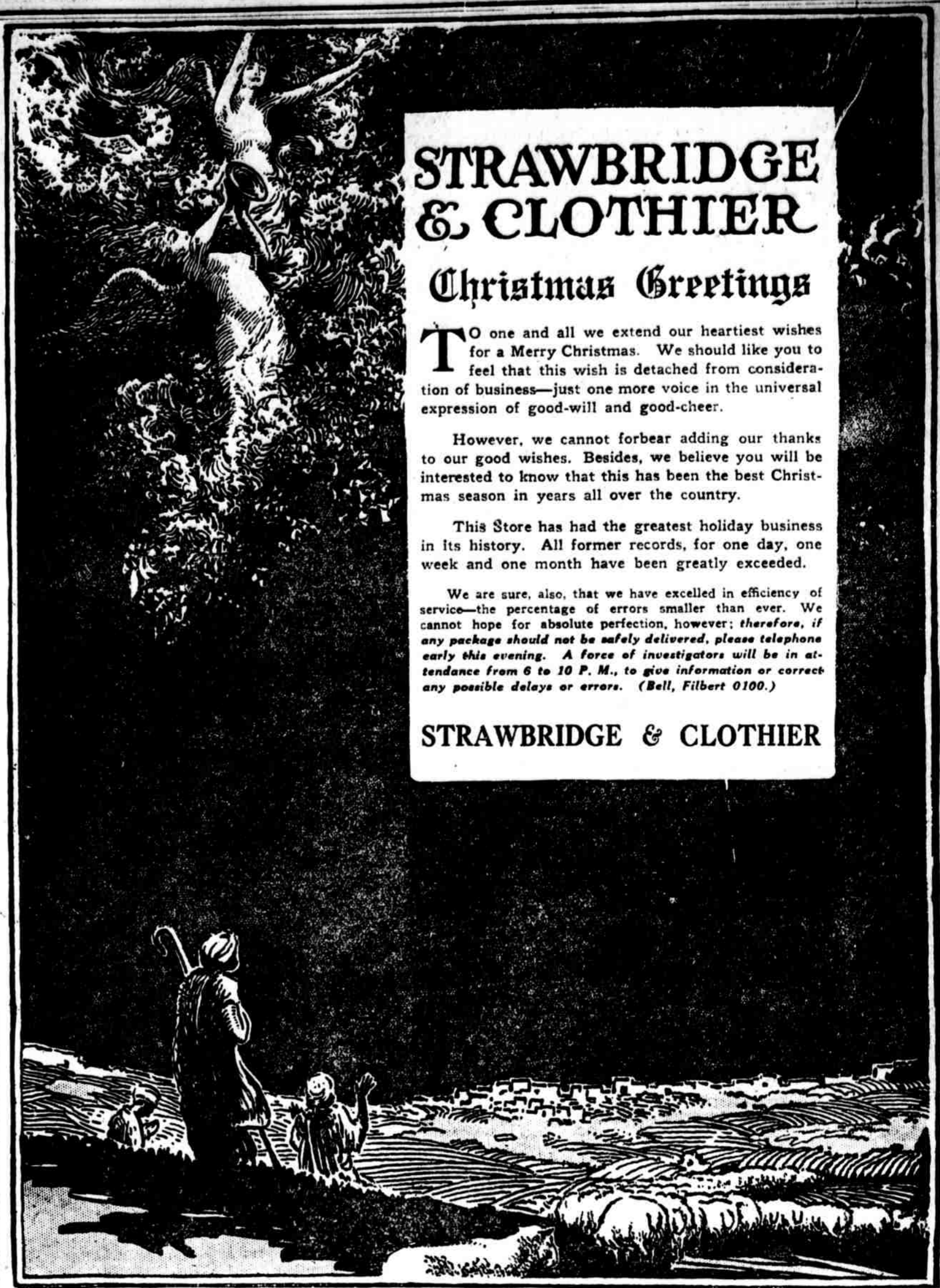
Long Vigil of Aged Parents Ended by Wanderer's Death

There will be no Christmas cheer in the home of "Father" and "Mother" Hampton, at Buckingham, Bucks County, this year.

Their son, Absalom, for whom they have been patiently waiting every Christmas-time since he first left home twenty years ago, was found dead near the house. He died while on his way home for Christmas, penniless, but welcome.

Christmas-time, each year of the twenty gone by, always has been accompanied by memories to Frank H. and Mrs. Hampton. Memories of a loved son, who had been a wanderer through that span—and a regret that he never had returned to them.

State police, who are investigating the case, said the victim had reached a point not seven miles from home when death cheated him of his home-coming. Three daughters at the Hampton home are inconsolable over their brother's fate.



STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER Christmas Greetings

To one and all we extend our heartiest wishes for a Merry Christmas. We should like you to feel that this wish is detached from consideration of business—just one more voice in the universal expression of good-will and good-cheer.

However, we cannot forbear adding our thanks to our good wishes. Besides, we believe you will be interested to know that this has been the best Christmas season in years all over the country.

This Store has had the greatest holiday business in its history. All former records, for one day, one week and one month have been greatly exceeded.

We are sure, also, that we have excelled in efficiency of service—the percentage of errors smaller than ever. We cannot hope for absolute perfection, however; therefore, if any package should not be safely delivered, please telephone early this evening. A force of investigators will be in attendance from 6 to 10 P. M., to give information or correct any possible delays or errors. (Bell, Filbert 0100.)

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER

Annual Business and Financial Issue

Containing a Broad Survey of Business Past—Present—Future January 1, 1923

This issue will be in effect a comprehensive history of Industry and Commerce in 1922. It will review the conditions which affected the economic, financial and industrial status of the country during the past year, and will present forecasts from experts in their respective industries of the prospects for 1923 in

- Steel
- Copper
- Paper
- Chemicals
- Coal
- Oil
- Rubber
- Tobacco
- Building
- Leather
- Textiles
- Automobiles

Banking and Finance, both local and country wide—including the National, State and Savings Bank fields—will be discussed at length by nationally famous leaders in the financial world. Many special articles on matters of interest to the business community will find place, together with a volume of exceptionally informative statistical matter, including among others:

- Tables of Stock Movements
- Complete Charts of Bond Prices
- Articles on Income Tax Changes
- Railroads and Public Utilities
- Marine and Shipping
- Foreign Business

This issue will prove of permanent value to Bankers, Brokers, Manufacturers, Merchants, Importers and Exporters, and should be filed for reference useduring the year.

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PUBLIC LEDGER
OF PHILADELPHIA
MORNING EVENING SUNDAY
CYRUS H. K. CURTIS, Publisher

Make Sure of Your Copy From Your Newsdealer

Tuesday, December 26th Will Be a Notable Day at Strawbridge & Clothier's

After-Christmas Clearances Many Unusual Values

In a community of more than two million people, of two million minds and moods, with needs arising every day, a great Store must plan ahead, must be ready every day. Therefore, the day after Christmas will find a great array of attractions all over the Store—things in every-day demand that have been crowded out of the news, or their purchase delayed in the hurry of holiday shopping.

Further details will appear on our page, in Tuesday Morning Papers—December 26th

This page will be one of the "newsiest" we have ever had, and yet will be only a partial report of the MANY ADVANTAGES to be gained by shopping here on that day. It will pay you well to look for this announcement—and act upon it promptly, Tuesday morning.

Radio Program Station WFI
Class B—400 Metres
Organ Recital—at 3:30
Sunday afternoon, preceding the chapel service, an organ recital from the home of one of our executives, will be broadcast through Station WFI.
Afternoon Chapel Service, 4 P. M.
The Sunday afternoon chapel service, at 4 o'clock, will be conducted by Rev. Edwin Forrest Hann, D. D., Pastor First M. E. Church, Camden, New Jersey. The Christmas Cantata, "The Morn of Glory," by Peace, will be sung by the choir of St. James M. E. Church, Olney, Pa., under the direction of James C. Warhurst. Chorus of 35 voices.
The soloists are: Miss Etta Lukens, Miss Mae Harner, soprano; Miss Marian Stuart, Mrs. F. Jordan, contralto; Herbert Ormandroyd, tenor; Edward Bates, H. Evans Rhell, bass. Frederick Jordan, organist.
Sunday Evening Church Service From Arch Street Presbyterian Church
The service will be preceded by an organ recital, beginning at 7:30 P. M., Alton K. Dougherty, organist and choir director.
The service will begin at 8 o'clock, Rev. Clarence Edward Macartney, D. D., minister

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