

Nursery 'Alumni' Return



FORMER STUDENTS of the College nursery school return to visit with Santa Claus. These six-year-olds were enrolled, when three and four years old, in the school operated by the School of Home Economics to provide training facilities for students studying child development and family relationship courses. They are Henry Yeagley, Carol Jeffries, Lucy Vierck, and Susan Hawthorne, all of State College.

1st Decorated Trees Used Christmas, 1840

Contrary to the general belief that the Christmas tree has been known to Americans since colonial days, the first ones were decorated here no earlier than 1840. But since their introduction into this country and the growth of the popularity of the custom, whole forests of the evergreens are moved annually to city markets for the holidays.

Strangely enough, this yearly tradition was begun by a man who never heard of or never saw a Christmas tree. He was Pope Gregory I, surnamed the Great. In the year 600, he asked missionaries not to destroy pagan customs which were innocent and in accord with Church tenets.

And when a missionary, Boniface, went from England to Germany, he made no attempt to halt the Teutonic custom of worshipping Odin's sacred oak. Instead, he persuaded the people to substitute an evergreen tree decorated in honor of the Christ Child. Martin Luther, at a later date, also gave approval to the custom. Thus, the present day Christmas tree was woven into Christmas tradition.

From Germany, it was transferred to England by the homesick German Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha after his marriage to Queen Victoria.

Since then, Christmas tree business has become one of the largest commercial enterprises in the United States. An estimated 30,000,000 firs, spruces, pines, and others are usually cut and on hand to supply the season demands. These trees come mainly from New England, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, the northern Middle West, and the Northwest Pacific regions. Contributions from Canada also run into millions.

Now, by special processing and handling, trees cut this year can be preserved without damage until next season. And many of the trees taken to market are much greener due to another special process incurring the use of dye. In recent years, the outdoor

Yule Parties For Children To Continue

As Christmas approaches, children of State College and surrounding areas continue to enjoy parties sponsored by campus groups.

Santa Claus will distribute gifts to children of University Club members at a party at 2 p.m. tomorrow at the clubhouse on W. College avenue.

A marionette show will be presented by the Bobwhite patrol of the State College Boy Scout troop 32, and refreshments will be served.

Reservations may be made until tomorrow with Mr. and Mrs. William M. Smith Jr., 4134; Mrs. William Hench, 2173; Mrs. J. O. Dutt, 4028; Mrs. E. W. Howells, 6156; Mrs. A. W. Vandermeer, 2530; Mrs. William F. Bell, 4440; Mrs. Kaye Vinson, 4732; or Mrs. Stephen Raleigh, 4615.

Sigma Delta Tau and Phi Delta Theta gave a Christmas party for underprivileged children Wednesday evening at the fraternity house. Santa Claus presented gifts to the children, and refreshments were served.

Engagements

Mourar-Shute

The engagement of Miriam Shute to Jack Mourar, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Mourar of Phoenixville, has been announced by her father, Ludwig Shute of Macdonald.

Miss Shute is a senior in institutional administration in the School of Home Economics. She is a member of Phi Upsilon Omicron, home economics honorary society, and Home Economics Club. Mr. Mourar was graduated last June in dairy husbandry and is a member of Theta Xi. At present he is a special student of animal husbandry.

Delta Pi Epsilon Board Will Meet Next Week

The executive board of Delta Pi Epsilon, honorary graduate fraternity for men and women in business education, will meet for a combined social and business meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the Corner Room.

The main purpose of the meeting is to decide on a project for the year. It usually consists of research in some phase of business education.

Xi Sigma Pi to Honor Five New Initiates

Five new initiates of Xi Sigma Pi, honorary forestry society, will be honored at the annual banquet 6 p.m. Jan. 8 at the State College Hotel.

Initiates include David P. Worley, assistant professor of forestry; Glenn Landis, Duane Holm, Clark Sell, and Daniel Loucks.

Co-Edits

Gamma Phi Beta

Newly elected officers of the Gamma Phi Beta pledge class are Nani Ku, president; Ann Serwatka, vice president; Suzanne Santee, treasurer; Jane Tarasi, recording secretary; Mildred McCowan, corresponding secretary; Alice Conrad, scholastic chairman; Barbara Bollinger, activities chairman; Phyllis Richards, historian; Jacqueline Garis, publicity chairman; and Martha Kemmerer, song chairman.

The sorority recently pledged Patricia Troxell.

Alpha Gamma Rho

Alpha Gamma Rho held its annual Christmas dinner dance Saturday night at the chapter house. The "Esquires" from Mansfield provided the music. During intermission flowers were presented to the couples who were recently pinned.

Guests of honor were Dean and Mrs. Frank J. Simes, Dean and Mrs. Lyman E. Jackson, and Mr. and Mrs. William R. Davey.

Perry Wetzel, fifth semester animal husbandry major, was recently pledged to Alpha Gamma Rho.

Theta Phi Alpha

The sisters and pledges of Theta Phi Alpha recently held a Christmas party. The pledges presented a skit, gifts were exchanged, and refreshments served.

Scientists Get Lab Positions

Laszlo Kurtossy, Hungarian inventor, and Dr. William A. Pullman, British scientist, have been appointed to the staff of the diesel research laboratory.

Kurtossy, a designer, will be working with flame and spark arrestors for gasoline-engined fork lift trucks, a project for the Corps of Engineers under the direction of Dr. Paul H. Schweitzer, professor of engineering research.

Dr. Pullman will be studying pressure waves and exhaust pipe phenomena in internal combustion engines, but will be returning to England after serving for a year at the College.

Instructor Appointed To National Committees

David C. Ekey, instructor in industrial engineering, has been named to two national technical committees of the American Foundrymen's Society.

Ekey is a member of the advisory group of the sand division and a member of the green sand properties committee.

Belles Lettres Club

Dr. Helen Adolf, associate professor of German, will talk on Franz Kafka to the Belles Lettres Club at 7 p.m. Jan. 6 in northeast Atherton lounge. The meeting is open to the public.

Phi Kappa Sigma

Newly elected officers of Phi Kappa Sigma are Robert Albertson, president; Clifford Stewart, social chairman; Hugh Quigley, scholastic chairman; Thomas Davies, secretary; William Ray, treasurer; John Cleland, rushing chairman; Harry Solomon, corresponding secretary; Robert Wuesthoff, house manager; and Carl Evankovich, pledge master.

3 Engineering Fellowships Available

Three ten month \$1200 fellowships for engineering graduates have been made available by the Hamilton-Standard Co.

One fellowship is offered in each of the aeronautical, electrical, and mechanical engineering fields.

Applicants must meet the minimum scholastic requirements for entrance into the Graduate School and be holders of a B.S. degree or in the process of completing their final semester's work for this degree.

The Hamilton-Standard Co. expects holders of the fellowships to accept employment with that firm for at least one year after completion of the graduate work.

Information and applications may be obtained from Earl B. Stavely, assistant dean of the School of Engineering, 204 Main Engineering.

Foreign Scientists Aid Project Work

Various research projects at the College attracted 34 foreign scientists during 1952. A. L. Beam, assistant director of resident instruction, has announced.

These include only men working under programs involved with technical assistance work in foreign countries, such as Mutual Security Agency and the Technical Cooperation Administration.

Countries represented were Brazil, one; Denmark, one; England, four; Finland, two; France, one; Germany, three; Ireland, one; Italy, five; Iraq, one; Japan, one; Luxembourg, one; Netherlands, two; Norway, six; Pakistan, two; Sweden, one; and Thailand, two.



Merry Xmas
and
A Happy
New Year

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Billy May and His Orchestra

FEB. 27, 1953 ★ REC HALL

Dancing 8:30 - 12:30