



HOMESICKNESS, perhaps, had brought him back. Old Peter Johansen buttoned his threadbare overcoat, blew warm breath on his rough hands and jumped to the ground. There was no railroad detective to grab him for riding that freight train, because this was the day before Christmas. All but the homeless, like himself, seemed busy preparing for the Day of Days.

Forty years, Peter reflected, since he last set foot in Clark City. It had been a year after the big earthquake, a year after all hell broke loose, killing his parents and sister as they sat at dinner in the little house on Vine street.

Peter remembered: How he had come home late that evening; how the earth began quivering like a beast possessed; how he had



Peter stood alone for a long time watching the star appear.

searched like a madman through the ruins of that shock-wracked, fire-swept bungalow. Then, as Clark City began rebuilding, he had drifted off in a daze to roam up and down the earth—a ne'er-do-well, a hobo!

But always he remembered Linda, dear little sister Linda. In 40 years her memory always came back stronger than ever on Christmas Eve, for it was then that they used to watch—Lookout Hill hand-to-hand at night, watching the evening star rise in the heavens.

"Always Linda was," he reflected, trudging along Clark City's busy thoroughfare. Christmas crowds jostled him, for he was a hapless wanderer with no place to go.

No place to go? Not Peter! Soon he found his way to the old residential district where Lookout Hill rose like a sentinel.

"The same old hill," he told himself. "Little Linda! If you were only here now to see your big brother! No—thank God you're not here, for your big brother is ashamed of himself!"

At the crest Peter stood alone for a long time, watching the star appear as it had since that first night over Bethlehem. He didn't notice the old lady until she spoke.

"Beautiful, that star, isn't it?"

Peter fumbled with his greasy-stained cap.

"Yer'm, it is. Especially from Lookout Hill."

"Many years ago," she continued, almost in a trance, "my little brother and I used to watch that star rise in the heavens each Christmas Eve, until—" she wiped a tear away—"we were separated somehow during the big earthquake. He was killed, they found out later."

"Each Christmas Eve ever since I've come back here, just to remember him. I hope he's happy up there in Heaven."

Peter was staring at her, fairly ready to shrivel, for it was Linda! No doubt about it, now!

He recognized the tilt of her nose, wrinkled by the years; the familiar ring of a voice that somehow had failed to grow old. But he held himself back, for Peter was ashamed of himself.

She didn't notice him shuffle off after awhile, for Linda was still watching the star.

In the freight yards he found an empty boxcar and bedded down under the same stars in a corner. After a while he fell the car move, and somehow he was glad.

"Yes, it was Linda," he smiled to himself. "But I just couldn't tell her. Thank God she's alive and happy. And thank God she remembers me on Christmas eve as I was, not as I am."

After awhile he fell asleep.

Continued by William Horwood Chase.

Colors Printed in Germany
A famous Christmas cake in Germany is Ansbach Printen, from which the English word "print" is derived. In the days before book-printing the idea of imparting color to the baking business is expressed by roasting of patterns in cakes. Many of these cakes have figures representing the old gods Wotan and Thor.

Santa May Not Smoke Cigars
Santa Claus, perhaps, doesn't smoke, or he would be before informed of the quality of cigars.

DISCOVERY! I NEVER KNEW HOW REAL BEER SHOULD TASTE UNTIL I TRIED P.D.*

* It's the famous Premium Dry Lager—brewed by Goenner—and sold here in Cambria County at the price of ordinary beers!

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You'll find it zestfully dry. You'll find it light-bodied—you can drink it to your heart's content without getting that filled-up feeling!

Have a glass of P. D. on draught—tonight—and take home several bottles for your ice-box.



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Nazi Victims Begin Life Anew in Iowa

Are Being Taught to Serve Usefully in America.

WEST BRANCH, IOWA.—Far from the battlefields that once were their homes, a number of European refugees are rebuilding their lives here in the quiet of the Seattergood War Refugee Hotel.

Fifty men and women have entered the hotel to prepare for life in this country since 24-year-old John Kallenback took over the old Quaker boarding school a year ago to give refugees a new chance in a new world.

As soon as they have been taught to serve usefully in this country, they leave the hotel to take up their lives where they left off when forced to flee from persecution.

"We have secret factory managers, judges, notaries and other professional men; all learned because somewhere they were of Jewish extraction. It took nothing more than a great-grandmother or father to do it," Kallenback said.

There are no conduct rules at the hotel and each refugee receives \$3 a week so that he or she may feel independent.

The occupants work in gardens, take care of tasks of the hotel, study English, economics and other

such subjects and engage in any other work useful in their little community.

Many of them still have relatives in Europe. Representative of the group is a Russian emigre from Germany. A soldier of the czar during the World War, he was captured by the Germans. After the revolution in Russia he remained in Berlin rather than live under a Communist government.

He became the Berlin representative of an American motion picture company and became moderately successful. Then the purge separated him from his family and eventually brought him to the United States and to Iowa.

A Jewish actress who attained prominence on the Viennese stage before fleeing to America soon will become director of dramatics in a midwestern city.

Health a Defense Factor

In announcing his acceptance of the chairmanship of the 1940 Christmas Seal Sale in Pennsylvania for the tenth year, Colonel Henry W. Shoenster declared that "Our defense plans for human health and safety would be greatly weakened if we did not combat tuberculosis even more vigorously than in the past."

With tuberculosis taking its greatest toll in the younger age groups it is most timely to have three happy children pictured on the 1940 Christmas Seal. Their appeal is: "Protect Us from Tuberculosis!"

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TRADE IS SEEN AT A TEN YEAR HIGH

National Defense Production and Improved Economic Conditions Held Responsible

Christmas trade prospects for this year are the best since 1929, government economists declared today.

Improved economic conditions that promise a national income of about \$74,000,000,000 for 1940 were credited for the good outlook.

Preliminary figures on fourth quarter business and employment indicate that the last three months of this year will be the best in any period during the past decade.

Reports received by the Commerce Department, the Federal Reserve Board and the Labor Department, indicate a wide demand for consumer goods as well as durable goods, due to increased employment, higher payrolls and the present level of the cost of living.

National Defense demands, as well as those of England and other countries for arms and munitions, are largely responsible for the improved conditions, experts said.

Although Thanksgiving will be observed in 16 states this week, the additional Christmas shopping week resulting from President Roosevelt's designation of the day as the Thank-

sgiving holiday, is expected to contribute to the volume of holiday spending. The President proclaimed Thanksgiving early because merchants complained of the later date, as it being celebrated in Pennsylvania, would leave too little time for Christmas shopping.

Retailers throughout the country began displaying Christmas goods a few weeks ago and engaged additional employees to handle brisk buying.

American industries are also reported meeting demands for most holiday goods that formerly were imported in large quantities from European countries now at war.

Northern and many southern cities, where heavy industries are going "all blast," report the demands for goods of virtually every character. This applies especially to steel centers, where mills are operating at full capacity.

Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones said that throughout the country the business record shows progress, with industrial production higher than that of last year.

Manufacturers have large backlogs of orders, the construction industry is at a new high peak, shipping is on the upgrade and electric power output has reached a new record, Jones said.

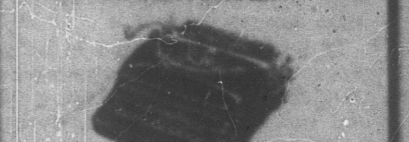
Despite the European and Asiatic wars and their blockade experts in the final two months of this year are expected to show increases, according to the experts, compared with August and September. Large quantities of goods are being shipped to England and other British possessions, and new markets for American goods are being developed, they said.

Income payments meantime, have

been on the upgrade since last May, and during the third quarter, reached the annual rate of \$74,000,000,000 compared with the \$70,000,000,000 national income for 1939.

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