

Students Tell Of Customs

Midnight church services, the visit of the Christ-child to each home, the eating of cake with charms baked into it, and the visit of Santa Claus are a few of the traditions kept in celebration of Christmas in the homes of students from around the world living on Macampus.

A program of talks given by several of these students about their particular custom of keeping Christmas was the feature of a recent SCA meeting.

Puerto Rico, Germany, and Greece were the three countries represented by the speakers—Ana Rosa Rodriguez of Puerto Rico, Anneliese Koch of Germany, and Ted Kaltsounis of Greece.

Christmas is celebrated in Puerto Rico in a very different manner from the United States. "Santa Claus" for children in Puerto Rico has a more biblical background since they believe it is the Three Wise Men who bring their gifts on the fifth day of January.

Family reunions are traditional on Christmas Day and are the main feature of the day, since most of the gifts are received on Three King's Day, the morning of Jan. 6.

Straw, water, and corn are placed by the children of Puerto Rico in the bedroom for the camels on which the kings come bringing the gifts.

"New Year's Day is also a great day for us as it means the starting of new life."

People in Puerto Rico start the year off right by getting things in the best order they can as they believe that things will remain throughout the year as they are that day.

The Three Wise Men are more generous in Puerto Rico than he is in most places.

He doesn't come on Christmas Eve only, but he may come at any time during the week.

Several festival days are connected with the religious celebration in Puerto Rico. Bethlehem Day, celebrated on Jan. 12 is in memory of the coming of the Wise Men.

As Anneliese Koch, next speaker, brought out, Germany has a custom much like the Puerto Rican New Year tradition, that of the first day of the New Year being a fatal day.

The Christmas season starts in Germany on the fourth Sunday before the 25th, which is called the First Advent Sunday, then each of the succeeding weeks is also an Advent Sunday.

On the Christmas wreath found in every home, are four candles, one of which is lit for each Advent Sunday.

A German wreath with American lights on it rather than the usual German candles hangs in Anneliese's third story window in Dots-zuhall.

Sankt Nikolaus comes to German children on Dec. 6 bearing a sack containing many goodies and gives a moral lesson to them. If the children have been very bad, the rod is used; usually the children are more fortunate and receive cookies and candy.

Many more of the gifts in Germany are handmade than in the United States. The children are not allowed to see the Christmas tree until Christmas Eve when people there usually open their gifts.

The Christ child brings the presents in Germany.

Church at midnight is one of the highlights in the traditional celebration of the German Christmas. Ted Kaltsounis, student from Greece, tells of the Christmas experience there.

Vacation from school starts Dec. 23 and lasts until Jan. 7. During this vacation they celebrate three holidays.

Birthday of Christ is on Dec.



MAC INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS . . . Back row: advisor, Wesley McCourney; Israel Zayas, Puerto Rico and Vinaya Lalitha, India. Front row: Ana Rosa Rodriguez, Puerto Rico; Eugene Lepri, Germany; Isaac Crillo, Nigeria; Theodore Kaltsounis, Greece; and Mrs. Sarala Pradhan, India. Not pictured are Fritz Pampus and Anneliese Koch, Germany, and Gwan Jo, Korea.

25, San Vacidios Day on Jan. 1 and Christ's Baptism on Jan. 6. Ted says "I have found that Christmas at home is much like Christmas in the United States."

Weeks before Christmas the shop windows are decorated and filled with gifts.

When Christmas Day arrives the people go to church. After the church service, the main course at dinner is usually whole roast lamb.

An interesting and different custom is the baking of a cake with coins in it, and people who get the pieces containing coins are considered lucky.

San Vacidios is their Santa Claus and he actually existed.

He was a Bishop in Palestine in 3 A.D. He was quite a wealthy man at one time but gave everything away when he became bishop.

He was interested in education. He died the first of January.

In especially the English speaking and German speaking countries, Christmas is the greatest feast of the church year.

Through sharing and hearing about the customs of different members of the college family, we broaden our own experience.

Gwan Jo from Korea relates that Christmas in Korea is just like here. The children eagerly wait for St. Nick. There are Christmas trees and the storekeepers decorate their windows. American missionaries originated the Christmas spirit in Korea. Non Christians do not celebrate Christmas.

Band Features Christmas Numbers

A special feature of Christmas tunes and carols were played by the Maccollege band for the Dec. 10, chapel program.

Under the directorship of Prof. Donald R. Frederick, the Maccollege band played "O Come, O Come Emanuel; What Child is Sleeping; Ring Christmas Bells; Green Sleeves, What Child is This; Willie Play Your Little Drum; and the Twelve Days Till Christmas in a Christmas Suite, arranged by Harold Walters.

As an added treat to the program Professor Frederick introduced each member of the band. Also three instruments new to the band were presented by a note on each.

The instruments were: baritone saxophone, played by Nancy Trostle; alto clarinet, Peg Hoefler; and an oboe, by Leon Albert.

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Mullen-Bradley To Wed

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dull of Wichita, Kas., announce the engagement of their daughter, Earlene Mullen to Phillip Keith Bradley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Bradley, also of Wichita.

Both Phil and Earlene are freshmen at McPherson College this year. Phil is working at Raleigh's Drug Store, and Earlene does secretary work in Mrs. Dell's office.

No wedding date has been set.

Recreators Meet . . . Dells Teach Crafts At Lab

From Dec. 27-31, 1954, Adult advisors of youth, Camp leaders, Children's workers, Music leaders, Pastors, Recreational leaders, and Youth cabinet officers will meet at Manchester College, North Manchester, Ind., for the 1954 Central Region Recreation Leaders Laboratory.

"Recreation for churches and for church families," is the theme which has been chosen for this Lab. Of the 14 leaders for the Lab, Prof. S. M. Dell, of the Industrial Arts Department, and Mr. Dell's wife and son Bob will have charge of crafts and the purposes of crafts in our recreation program.

Students are urged to attend to develop leadership and skills in recreation—music, camping, and also to enjoy the fellowship of others. A registration fee of \$5 was to be sent to the Regional Office at Manchester College, before Dec. 5, 1954, an additional fee of \$1 will be charged for late registration.

Ed Crill, National Youth Director of the Church of the Brethren, from Elgin, Ill., will be director of the Rec. Lab.

Some of the phases of recreation which will be studied are: Crafts and purposes of crafts in our recreation program, Folk lore-value and use, Philosophy of recreation and how we use it, Skill games, Group games, Party planning, and Music.

A schedule full of creative ideas and skills has been planned for those in attendance. All meals will be served family-style. Rec. labbers will work together preparing to serve and cleaning up after the meals.

A Rec. Lab. manual will be edited as the Lab. proceeds through the week. Each leader will present written material pertaining to his part of the Lab., which will go into the manual.

Evans Plays Santa

Did Santa Claus seem to have an extra warm hello for you this year? If so, and you were on the downtown street in McPherson it very likely was Kenny Evans, Maccollege senior from Eugene, Ore.

This is Kenny's second year at playing Santa Claus for the youngsters here at McPherson. Last year as well as this, the Chamber of Commerce has hired Kenneth to act the part on Saturday afternoons in the business district.

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Canine Grows

Dormitories hold plenty of excitement these days. Behind closed doors presents were being wrapped and later set under make-believe trees, and parties and exchanges were being planned.

Many a fellow and gal were penning Christmas cards to those they remember during the season.

Several Christmas exchange parties have taken place this week.

Some of the second floor roommates had a party Wednesday night in Carol Hinz's and Gay Hinkle's room. Rita Evans, Nadene Correll, Clara Zunkel, Evelyn Jarboe, Ina Switzer, and Irene Shall, were some of the room's that were present.

Last Friday night the Pine Room of the Warren Hotel provided a cozy place for a party for five duos. A shimmering Christmas tree covered with angel hair had small favors nestled at the base of it. Punch and cookies, mints, and nuts were served to the guests of Don Moeller and Jackie Blackwell, Ron Sams and Arlene Watts; Bob Wise and Anita McSpadden; Tom Taylor and Anne Keim; Ed Frantz and Gimmy Russell were present for the gathering.

Later in the evening a slumber party was on deck at the home of Arlene Watts. A gab fest plus food and some sleep were the highlights for several in attendance such as Rachel Brown, Bonnie Smith, Jackie Blackwell, and Arlene.

The pros have done it again! Students had tests to study for along with the hustle and bustle of getting ready to go home.

Amid the lowered ceiling of silver full snowflakes, the perfumed smell pine boughs and the cozy atmosphere of the Christmas Formal, the first engagement announcement from the freshman class was revealed.

During the encore number of the Ladies Trio, their singing of the song "Winter Wonderland" came to a sudden stop which was the chosen time for Alma Goodfellow to give the surprise announcement of Earlene Mullen's engagement to Phil Bradley.

After the program concluded congratulations were extended to the couple.

Even the cafeteria atmosphere has taken on a new design. Gay, red and green bows were placed on the windows. The glass around the room was sprayed and the shapes of bells, deer, and candy canes were outlined. Each table

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Janzon's JEWELERS

had a low burning candle with greenery around the base of it. Sunday morning four couples attended church at the reformatory in Hutchinson. Marlene Moats and Jim Hershberger; Ruth Grossnickle and Ronnie Miller; Ruth Davidson and Richard Carney; and Kathy Hamm and George Eisele took the trip.

The Bittinger family have a special treat this Christmas. Their daughter and son-in-law, Irvin and Patty Stern, are at home with them. Soon after the vacation the couple and their small daughter will sail to the mission field in Africa. Sunday morning the freshman Sunday School Class had the privilege of hearing the two tell of their experiences and plans for their sailing.

After the game Tuesday night Vern Scott and Liz Keim invited several couples to the Bittinger's recreation room for a holiday party. Refreshments were served to the couples: Phil Grossnickle and Earlene Mullen; Marlin Sittner and Lu Wise; Jim Snyder and June McDaniel; and Gary Button and Delaine Larsen.

Thursday night after hours in Ginny Russell and Liz Keim's room on third, a gang of girls gathered for a gift exchange. Among those joining in on the fun were Anita McSpadden, Eloise Postier, Bea Grone, Shirley Knackstedt, Jeanne Shively, June McDaniel, Marian Sifford, Donna Berry, Kathy Albin, Lu Wise, Anne Keim, and the two hostesses.

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Mac To Meet St. Mary's Tonight

McPherson Bulldogs will play St. Mary's tonight in the high school gym. The preliminary game will begin at 6:30 and the first team game at 8:00.

This will be a hard fought contest. Coach Sid Smith's boys will see if their fast break will be effective against St. Mary's defense.

Bulldog players have been working hard in practice. They have been practicing their shots, dribbling, free throws, and offensive and defensive playing.

Ed Wolf has the best free throw percentage in practice. Out of a hundred free throw taken every night in practice he has an av-

erage in the 80's.

The squad is improving every game. The freshmen are looking good. Ed Sink racked up eleven points in the first game of the season. The rest of the freshmen are showing future promise also.

Our B squad will be hard to beat this year. As the A squad becomes more experienced and the team starts clicking they will be formidable challengers.

St. Mary's will have a good team. They keep the ball moving and hustle all the time.

However, the Bulldogs full of fire and pep can take this game. With team work and under the supervision of Sid Smith, Maccollege is going to be hard to beat.

Bulldogs Cook Sterling In Hot Water Game

Fueled by a 14 point second half outburst by Ed Wolf, McPherson's Bulldogs beat Sterling in a non-conference ballgame 65-63. Sterling led 33-31 at the intermission.

Wolf led McPherson with 20 points. Ronnie Sams had 18, Bob Wise 11, Bill Smith 10, Ed Sink 8, and Ed Frantz 2 to round out the scoring. Smith also contributed 13 rebounds.

The game was very close all the way with the lead shifting hands 15 times throughout the game.

McPherson finally took the lead halfway through the second half at 46-45 and was never headed after that. Wolf led the surge, getting 12 of the last 23 points.

Both teams were cold the first half, hitting less than 30 percent of their shots. The new glass backboards at the high school gym may have contributed to the coldness. At any rate, the shooting was better in the second half, Mac getting 37 percent.

The game opened with Mac getting loose on some plays and jumping to leads of 4-0, 13-8, and 17-11. But Sterling then went ahead 18-17. The lead then saw-sawed back and forth with Sterling holding a 2 point edge at the half.

After the half there was never more than three points difference between the teams until McPherson went ahead for good. With the score 53-51, McPherson, Smith and Wolf sandwiched field goals around a bucket and free throw by Sams to build the lead to 58-51.

Sterling cut the deficit to 59-57, but then Wolf hit three quick set shots from the corner. That made the margin big enough to stall on, although Sterling got hold of the ball and scored three setups in the last minute of play.

At times, in the game, Mac looked very good, but at other times some rough edges showed through.

The team as a whole just needs more game experience and should get just that over the holidays.

Starting the rough conference play, January 8, against C. E., the bulldogs will have to keep improving.

The Sterling B team beat McPherson's B team 70-59. Ronnie Anderson led the B team scoring with 19 points.

Roderiguez Speaks To Home Ec Club

"Christmas in My Homeland" was the theme of a talk given by Ana Rosa Roderiguez of Puerto Rico, at a meeting and Christmas party of Home Economics Club held in Dotzour Lounge on Dec. 14.

A gift exchange of funny or useful after was held.

Following a quartet composed of June McDaniel, Joyce Miller, Ellen Willems and Shirley Rhoades who sang "Marshmallow World" accompanied by Ruth Strickler, the group sang Christmas songs and carols led by Patsy Miller.

Other members of the committee on program and refreshments were: Phyllis Nagel; Dee Bowman; and Anne Keim, chairman.

A business meeting was held prior to the program in which the group discussed sponsoring an exchange of students and sending a Christmas basket to a needy family.

"Sterling, china and crystal" will be the theme for the first meeting of the new year on January 10. Committee on arrangements and refreshments is Marlene Jamison, Joyce Miller, Beverly Barr and Ellen Willems.

Santa Claus Is Coming

Santa Claus is an American personality who came about from the poem "The Night Before Christmas" by Dr. Clement Moore in 1822. In the poem Santa is pictured as a fat, white bearded, jolly old gentleman dressed in a red suit with white fur trim. Americans soon adopted this Santa Claus and he is becoming very popular in other countries.

Originally he was St. Nicholas a tall dignified Saint robed in the official vestments of a bishop who brought gifts to good boys and girls. Saint Nicholas was brought to America by the Dutch who settled in New York.

At the close of the Third century in Lyia, Asia Minor lived a Saint called Nicholas. He became the Bishop of Myra and was famous for his kindness. The story is told how he gave money to three girls so they could have a dowry. He became known as the patron Saint of Children. St. Nicholas became the name of the person who brought the children their gifts on Christmas Eve. He is buried in Bari, Italy.

St. Nicholas has many names in various countries such as: Father Christmas, Kris Kringle, Peznickel, Yule Tomten, La Befano, Petit Noel, Christkindl, Hoteioho, and Den Che Lao Ren.

The legend that Santa comes down the chimney came from the Norsemen along with the burning of the yule log.

Carney To Attend National Assembly

Richard Carney, Maccollege sophomore, is planning to attend the National Student Assembly of the YMCA, YWCA, and SCA which will be held at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, from Dec. 27 to Jan. 2.

Richard will leave on Monday morning, Dec. 27, for the conference and return in time for the reopening of school.

If happiness were really attainable through the doctrine of everyone for himself, the whole world would at once become a very happy place.

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Mac Bulldogs Fall To Bethel, Tabor

Bethel College emerged victorious at the Moundridge Tournament this year by defeating Bethany in the finals on Thursday evening, Dec. 9. Tabor beat McPherson for third place.

In the second game of the tournament Bethany came from behind in the third quarter to beat McPherson 72-61. The defeat eliminated any chance of McPherson's retaining the Moundridge trophy.

McPherson had won the trophy the past two years.

The Bulldogs led 27-26 at the half and 35-28 early in the third period. They owned their last lead midway through the third period at 41-40. After that Bethany kept a few points ahead until the closing minutes when they mounted the score on free throws.

Ed Wolf led McPherson with 16 points. Rounding out a well balanced attack were Ed Sink, Bob Wise, Ron Sams, and Ed Frantz with 12, 11, 8, and 7 points respectively.

Ralph Fry of Bethany was high for the game with 28 points.

Bethany opened the game with a field goal to take the lead. Wolf got a field goal, Frantz got two free tosses, and the Bulldogs went ahead of Bethany. Wise slapped in two buckets and Frantz got a bucket and two charity tosses to lead the way to a 13-9 lead.

Then Bethany came back and got eight straight points, with Fry hitting four straight free throws and the lead by 17-13.

Sink, who replaced Frantz after his fourth foul, got two free tosses and Wise and Sams each a bucket to again tie it up.

The lead changed hands twice again before the half ended. After Wolf knotted the count at 26 all with a hook and a free throw, Frantz put the canines ahead at the half 27-26 with a charity throw.

After the half, McPherson zipped to a 35-28 lead, their biggest of the evening. But, Bethany, with Fry banking in jump shots, crawled up to 35-36 and went ahead 38-37.

Sams hit on the fast break, and Wise got two free ones and Mc-

Sport Glances

By Don Saunders

Looking around the league, Ottawa and Kansas Wesleyan are both strong contenders for the KCAC title. Emporia another high ranking team was upset by Ottawa 70-63.

Wesleyan's Gary Cassel is the league's leading scorer. With his shooting potential and the smooth playing of his teammates, Kansas Wesleyan will remain at the top.

Bethel and Bethany aren't out of the running either. Both teams have a good record so far.

This week the Swedes were on tour in South Dakota. They expect the competition to be keen.

Girls Begin Varsity Games Next Year

The girls varsity basketball team will begin scheduling games after the Christmas vacation.

Arlene Merkey, Evelyn Jarboe, Marilyn Metsker, Mary E. Swing, Betty Holdreid and Mary Alice Smith are the players who will be returning from last year's team.

New members will be chosen mainly on their play during girls' intramurals with a few special practices being called.

Games are usually scheduled with Tabor, Bethany and Central College. The game with Bethany will be scheduled for the same day as the boys game, if possible.

Tabor rallied to score 14 points to McPherson's three, and then stalled out the last four minutes to win.

Late in the fourth quarter, four of Mac's starters, Smith, Sams, Ed Frantz, and Ed Wolf, fouled out in quick succession. That put the lid on the Tabor victory, since Coach Smith had to bank on four freshmen to replace these men.

After Tabor jumped off to an 11-2 lead, Mac came back to tie it up at 15 all. Sams and Wise both popped in two fielders to spur the rally. Then Tabor went ahead 17-15 on Kleinsasser's field goal and kept the lead at the half.

In the second half, with Tabor leading 37-32, the Bulldogs got loose on the fast break and started pouring them through. Smith hit a good shot and a free throw, Frantz hit a jump shot and Sams a layup to take the lead at 39-37.

Then with Smith getting six and Wise four points, McPherson built up its biggest margin of the game at 51-44. But, this was when the refs started waving the boys to the showers.

In the next three minutes, Tabor outscored Mac 10-2 and although Frantz's free throw tied it up at

Library Boasts Trade Magazines

Maccollege Library has been gifted with many magazines; the majority being trade magazines from a trade company. The magazines will be found along the west wall of the large study room in the library.

Among the companies contributing magazines are: DuPont, Lipton, Santa Fe, and Ford Times. The Naval Operations and Marine Corp each have magazines. From Washington presses are: Korean Survey, Venezuela, and Dominican Republic. These magazines are built around the public relations with the country.

Magazines built on Brethren Service are: From Pillar to Post, Volunteer Service, and Brethren Service News.

Tabor kept ahead by a field goal the rest of the game.

Both teams had good shooting percentages the first half, McPherson hitting 37 percent and Tabor 41 percent. But, the second half McPherson hit only 18 percent, with Tabor getting 40 percent of its shots.

In the second game of the night, Bethel beat Bethany 71-64 behind the 17 points of Paul Harm. All 17 points were made at the free throw line.

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