

**By REYNOLDS KNIGHT**  
 With the Christmas shopping rush well under way it is good to know that each of us, man, woman and child, has nearly \$200 in cash. At least the U.S. Treasury Department reports that on Sept. 30 each of us had \$197.95 in purse or pocket, a figure reached by dividing money in circulation (\$38,166,434,366) by our population.

Apparently encouraged by this, Americans have started off on what promises to be the spendingest Christmas season ever, with one forecaster making the prediction that each family in the nation will spend at least \$170 for gifts, for a total of \$8.5 billion.

Meanwhile, 3,250 miles south of Santa's legendary North Pole headquarters, a leading manufacturer of toys for pre-school age children is working round-the-clock to provide its share of the 18 million toys delivered Christmas morning. Fisher Price Co., of East Aurora, N.Y., tells the world "Our Work is Child's Play." And means it, every word.

**CENTURY OF PROGRESS**  
 changes are coming faster than ever before in American history and actually are setting the stage for another industrial revolution, in the opinion of alumni of the Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Science.

Marking the centennial of the school, its graduates were asked to evaluate America's engineering advances since 1864 and a majority cited control of atomic energy and its application to peaceful uses as the top development of the century.

Peaceful uses of atomic energy are bringing a profound change in nearly every aspect of American life, the engineers noted. Such applications include agriculture, medicine and all the sciences, as well as aiding in the creation of new products and new industries.

Second place on the engineers' list went to space exploration and the possibility of landing a man on the moon within this decade. Manned orbital flight, they agreed, has overshadowed the original 1903 flight by the Brothers

Wright. More widespread use of electricity and electronics was regarded as the third most important advance of the century.

**CORN CROP** — Weather conditions in the Corn Belt get a large part of the blame for a 1964 corn crop estimated to be 13 per cent below 1963 in production and 4 per cent under the average.

But there's another reason — and this other reason gives some corn seed companies something to crow competitively about, according to Cargill, Inc. of Minneapolis, a major seed producer. Part of the reason for lowered production and decreased yields is "ear drop," the term farmers use to describe excessive dropping of ears to the ground before harvest. Modern corn picking machines pull the ears right off the stalk, but ears that are on the ground have to be picked up by hand. Many, perhaps most, farmers prefer to leave them there rather than tackle that back-breaking job.

However, Cargill said, some farmers this year planted

seed varieties that were tallormade to keep ears on the stalk during dry weather. Those who planted other varieties lacking this characteristic probably would rather switch to a "no drop" variety next year, it is reasoned.

**SCIENCE NEWS** — Safety engineers are ready to suggest that the traditional red tail lights on automobiles be supplemented with green and yellow lights to avoid the collisions that occur when the car in front suddenly slows down. Green lights would appear as the car travels at speeds above 40, changing to yellow when the car begins slowing down and remain yellow until the car stops, when the red lights would flash on. This would compensate, it is hoped, for failure of some drivers to realize quickly enough that the car ahead is slowing down.

Helium, vitally important to America's space program, has been put to work to help Oregon lumbermen get their logs out of rugged terrain. Helium-filled balloons are capable of lifting and carrying logs weighing

a ton or more and the device has eliminated the need for some new roads. Give the bugs a snug home and they won't roam is the slogan of scientists who are experimenting with lush alfalfa plantings side-by-side with cotton to keep lygus out of the cotton. The alfalfa was found to keep the bugs from crossing over to the cotton.

**THINGS TO COME** — Improved fuel pump-carburetor as original equipment on chain-saw gasoline engines. New pump-carburetor works effectively in temperatures from minus 40 to plus 100F. Solves special problems of flooding, stalling and gas waste created by conditions of chain-saw use. For spring, 1965, a new garden sprayer, adjustable from soft mist to sharp jet. Celanese plastic material of nozzle reportedly resistant to corrosion from wide range of chemicals used in garden sprays. For travelers, a new on-the-spot pressing pad of thick foam rubber with a scorch resistant, heat-reflecting aluminum silicone cloth cover. New and unusual oil finish

that penetrates wood to make it 25 per cent harder. Brushed on, or wiped on with a cloth, the oil sinks into the wood. Helps put natural finish on such woods as walnut, cherry, oak.

**BITS O' BUSINESS** — The average American in 1963 paid out \$235 in state and local taxes and taxpayers in New York paid the most, \$327, according to Commerce Clearing House. Adverse effects of the General Motors strike in October included a drop of one per cent in factory orders from the September level, the Commerce Department states. Re-opening of the steel workers' contract in January probably will lead to steel stockpiling by consumers, the industry believes. The nation's economic growth in 1965 will be only slightly less than in 1964, one of America's largest banks predicts.

## ... Let's Go

By LARRY MACARAY

Carrier and Ives—Print-makers to the American people. A truly American venture that was one of the gigantic successes of the 19th century. Historians have given us the facts of the 19th century—but the atmosphere and romance of the period was recorded by others.

Outstanding among these was the lithographing firm of Carrier and Ives. From 1838 to 1872 the N. Carrier and Currier and Ives store was located at 152 Nassau St. in New York City. The store only had a frontage of 25 feet and a depth of approximately 75. It must have been a delightful and, from the viewpoint of today's collector, a fabulous place.

Some years ago, as an avid antique collector, I managed to run across several original Currier & Ives prints and luckily I still have two left. The black and white print is of President Lincoln being assassinated at Ford's theater. The hand colored print that I have is the "Battle of Pea Ridge."

SIX CENTS was the gigantic sum per print—wholesale that is—because the distribution was astonishingly wide. Dealers were found in all parts of this country as well as in Europe. In France the comics and clipper-ships prints were highly popular, while Germany and Great Britain preferred the views and Western scenes.

It is definitely known that there were several thousand different prints, and nearly every month brings a new one to light. From the standpoint of modern collectors it is to be regretted that this old firm did not leave a complete and detailed list of its achievements.

In the store the single prints were sold at from 15 cents to 25 cents apiece, except those lots of prints that were sold at the sidewalk tables at almost any price. The large folios sold at retail from \$1.50 to \$3 each. Imagine buying them originally for 6 cents apiece—and now to find that they are worth—as mine are—\$50 each.

"THE LAKE of Killarney" is a graphic view, full of detail, and one of the best views issued by Currier & Ives. Although all of the views were of America—this was an exception—which can only be accounted for by the large migration to this country from Ireland during the second half of the 19th century and by a desire of the immigrants to have pictures of their homeland.

Another large and important group is that of the his-

### RED RYDER

By Fred Harman



## Watson Says Personal Tax On 'Way Out'

In an effort to eliminate the assessment and taxation of household furnishings in private residences, the State Board of Equalization has joined forces with County Assessor Philip E. Watson, according to the latter.

In a recently-adopted resolution, the state board urged the legislature to exempt such personal property from taxation, pointing out that household furnishings are totally exempt in 19 states and partially exempt in five others.

Watson said he believed, on the basis of recent statements by the Governor and members of the legislature, that his long campaign to eliminate the "nuisance tax" on household furnishings would be successful shortly.

## New Center For Speech Will Open

A new speech and hearing center will be opened at Little Company of Mary Hospital in January, according to a joint announcement by the hospital and the South Bay Speech and Hearing Center.

The center, a non-profit and non-sectarian organization, will be headed by Mrs. Carol Kling offer a speech and hearing therapist. The center also will serve as a training center for students from Marymount College in Palos Verdes.

"The center was formed to meet needs of those with speech or hearing problems in the area," Mrs. Klinghofer said. It will be housed at the hospital and referral to the center must be made through a medical source.

The center will conduct an evaluation program to determine the nature of speech and hearing problems, then go into an observation and testing phase. Therapy will be started when the need is indicated.

## Annual Christmas Program First Methodist Church Set

Morning services at First Methodist Church of Torrance today will be held at 9:30 and 11 o'clock. The Rev. Arthur Nagel, pastor of the church will deliver a message entitled "God Unveils Himself."

The church Christmas program will be presented this afternoon at 4. Children from the church school classes will present the program, entitled "Let's Go to Bethlehem."

The 7:30 p.m. service will feature a program of Christmas music by the Kjellberg Promusica Ensemble of Santa Monica. The program will be given in the Sanctuary.

## High Schools Join HC in Yule Concert

The annual Christmas festival at Harbor College tomorrow will feature musical groups from local high schools and the college choir and orchestra.

High School groups from San Pedro, Carson, Washington and Palos Verdes will present individual selections as well as joining Harbor's choir and orchestra in the rendition of excerpts from Handel's "Messiah."

"A Christmas Festival" and "Winter Wonderland" will be featured by the Harbor College orchestra under the direction of Daniel R. Remeta.

The college choir, under the direction of Robert H. Billings will sing "Gloria in Excelsis Deo," "Hospodi Potulili," "Covntny Carol," and "Hallelujah" from "Mount of Olives" by Beethoven.

The concert, which begins at 8 p.m. in the main gymnasium, is without admission charge.



**GREEN BELT** . . . Members of the Riviera Village Merchants Association and owners of the property are pictured at one of the newly planted corners, Pacific Coast Highway and Avenue I. The project, one of several being developed by the association, is intended to beautify the village center. Shown are John Davis, property owner; Bob Reis, association president; Lee Soloman, Redondo Beach City Councilman, and Dick Gawne, chairman of the beautification committee.

## DOROTHY DIGS in the garden

It is certainly not too early to think of Christmas and I hope you have included "green goods" in your Christmas plans.

Any of your friends who have a garden area would be real pleased, I am sure, to receive a rose certificate or a beautiful plant that can be planted in the spring or right after the holidays, depending on the area you live in.

A beautiful poinsettia is a good example and it can be planted outside in many areas.

Your nurseryman will give you a certificate telling your friend that a rose bush will be sent him at the proper planting time. It would be nice to include a bottle of leaf shine or fish fertilizer or tender leaf spray for indoor plants with your certificate.

I am sure that a little thoughtful planning now will make a friend very happy at Christmas.

