

ANN LANDERS



A Christmas Message

Twelve years ago—the year Ann Landers began writing this column—she produced a special essay for Christmas. Reader response was extremely high and she has repeated the column annually, with topical modification. This is her Christmas message for 1967.

Tomorrow is Christmas. All about us we hear talk of peace on earth, good will toward men. Yet we know, to our sorrow, that there is no peace and in the hearts of many men there is no good will.

A defeatist philosophy has threatened to capture our young people. They complain that civilization is out of joint. They threaten to resign from the human race. They resent having to live in a dangerous and untidy world they never made. But what generation ever made the world it had to live in?

These are difficult times in which to live despite "progress" on every side. Everything is pasteurized, homogenized, pressurized, and psychoanalyzed. But what progress have we made? Is it progress to spend billions of dollars on missiles while children in many parts of the world go to bed hungry? Is it progress when thermonuclear and biological war threatens to hunt down man wherever he is—to infect him, suffocate him or incinerate him? And how safe are we when in our own snug, prosperous America, groups which support Hitlerism, Communism, Black Power and the K.K.K. find growing support?

This is the age of transition, the big cop-out, the unwashed and the undressed. The blurring of the sexes. Young rebels spit in the face of conformity and stare us down with eyes like hypodermic needles. Some fear we are heading toward social decay—going the way of the Romans and the Babylonians. Others applaud the "new morality" and rejoice at the demise of "phony puritanism." They herald the sex revolution as symptomatic of a maturing society which will encourage creativity and promote better mental health.

Hippies are searching for drugs to "expand their minds" when in reality they have merely opted to anesthetize themselves against the pain of growing up and accepting responsibility. They blame "the Establishment" for their anxiety and inability to meet the challenge when the central problem lies within themselves.

This raises some serious questions for which there are no easy answers. In the words of the late David Neiswanger of the Menninger Foundation: "If each of us can be helped by science to live a hundred years, what will it profit us if our hates and fears, our loneliness and our remorse will not permit us to enjoy them? Of what use is an extra year or two to the man who kills what time he has?"

Each day we make a series of small decisions. These decisions determine the direction in which our lives will move. No one, irrespective of how wise, how highly principled or how experienced, can make the right decision every time. To err or fail is no disgrace. The disgrace lies in not learning from our mistakes—not recovering from our defeats—not getting up to try again.

Since this is a problem column, I hear more about failure than I hear about victory. Does this depress me? No, it does not. After 12 years I still find this work immensely rewarding. I realize that many people who write me don't want advice, they merely want someone to listen. I am fortunate to have been given this opportunity to listen and to help. For there is no greater satisfaction than to serve. And with God's help I will continue to do my best.

(c) 1967. Publishers-Staff Syndicate



PRESENTS FROM FOXHOLE... Vietnamese dolls, being examined by Linda Delli Veneri (left), and Rita Gilkey, freshmen at North High School, were a Christmas present to the school from a former student who is serving in Vietnam. Sgt. Pete Molina, who sent the four dolls, is among the many alumni who have been receiving mail from students in Mrs. Mary Gwynn's English classes. Recently students and faculty members sent 39 packages overseas to brighten the holidays for men in foxholes.

FROM VIETNAM

Santa Comes From Foxhole to School

At times Santa Claus has been seen to depart by sleigh from the North Pole, sled brimming over with gifts.

At other times he's been said to travel from parts unknown by helicopter bearing a gift-laden sack slung over one shoulder.

But this Christmas Santa appeared in a new guise to youngsters at North High School.

Santa came from a foxhole in Vietnam.

AS MILLIONS of holiday packages from the United States made their way overseas to servicemen, a pair of parcels were headed in this direction, bringing Christmas cheer from a lonely soldier to his alma mater.

Early this year students in Mrs. Mary Gwynn's freshman

English class began corresponding with former North High students serving in the armed forces in this country and overseas.

Sgt. Pete Molina, stationed in Vietnam, was among the recipients of the freshman mail.

SHORTLY before Christmas, as students were typing the last of their Christmas letters and addressing Christmas cards and gifts to servicemen, a parcel arrived, addressed to Mrs. Gwynn. A companion parcel, identical in size, was delivered to Mrs. Melvina Kovinick, assistant principal.

The pair of packages bore an APO return address. They were from Sgt. Pete Molina.

Teacher Gets New Position

Raymond A. Phelps, a teacher at Newton Elementary School, has been named vice principal of Seaside Elementary School. He succeeds Mrs. Geneva Shelton, who recently assumed the post of principal of Madison Elementary School.

An employe of the Torrance Unified School District for the past ten years, Phelps taught at Carl Steele Elementary School for five years and at Newton for five years. Before coming to Torrance, he was an industrial arts teacher at Stanford Junior High School in Sacramento.

A native of Santa Barbara, Phelps attended Redlands High School in Redlands and received his bachelor's degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara. He did graduate studies at Sacramento State College, and received his master's degree at the University of Southern California.

WHILE attending college he was employed as a musician and as a lifeguard. His college affiliations included Delta Tau Delta, a social fraternity, and Xi Omicron Pi, a graphic arts fraternity. A Navy veteran, Phelps served in San Diego and Hawaii.

At the present time he is an active member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Redondo Beach; E. Clampus Vitus Historical Society; the Peninsula Human Relations Council; the South Bay YMCA; the National Education Association; the California Teachers Association; and the Torrance Education Association. His hobbies are music and woodcrafts.

STUDENTS opened the parcels. Each parcel contained two Vietnamese dolls. For two of the delicate Oriental dolls, home is now a shelf in an English classroom where they serve as a constant reminder of the soldier in the foxhole who believed that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

For the other two dolls, home has become a display case in the school library, where they share quarters

with a small notice reminding students that addresses are available for letter-writers who wish to extend friendship to a foxhole.

Two From South on Honor Roll

Two graduates of South High School have been named to the dean's list at Stanford University for academic achievement during the 1966-67 school year.

Anina E. Schwartz and Paul F. Kaplan, salutatorian and co-valedictorian of their respective graduation classes, have received scholastic honors for exceeding a 3.2 grade point average.

Anina, who just returned from a six-month study trip to France, where she was enrolled at the Stanford Overseas Campus, is presently in her junior year. She is majoring in biology.

Paul, a sophomore majoring in pre-med, earned a 4.0 grade point average in the Spring quarter. He has been active in track and cross-country at Stanford.

COUNT MARCO

Don't Let That Party Ruin You

Sometime this month you will be inflicted with the annual office parties at which you can shine or become very tarnished. If you misbehave, as I saw you do last year, when I made the rounds, you not only will be a figure of ridicule and scorn, but even perhaps of unemployment at the start of the new year.

How I wish many of you could have seen yourself as others saw you. You swayed and staggered, bleary-eyed and messy. Your voice, louder and louder as the drinks poured on, was punctuated with raucous, often hysterical laughter, most of it coming from dark corners or supply closets. You sounded like an over-anxious cat trying to choose a Tom. The only thing you proved to your co-workers was that all your animal instincts were aroused and you behaved like one.

Office parties are not mandatory. Neither is drinking straight liquor out of paper cups or coffee-stained mugs. As a woman, you should know that you can't handle your liquor.

A man may become inebriated and people will only shrug their shoulders. But you women must never be seen in that condition,

particularly by your office friends or by your employer.

When the typewriters are covered, and the gifts passed out, stick to water, coffee or plain mixes. This is the time to take your Tom Collins without the gin. And don't let vulgar displays of persistent ribbing ruin your serene smile of gracious refusal. You're a big girl now and should be able to handle a dare.

When the party starts to roar, that's your cue to quietly disappear. No one will even realize that you have gone. Don't trigger a mass attempt to ply you with "one for the road" by trying to say goodbye or to extend best wishes of the season!

When the time comes to return to work again, you'll be able to sail into the office, head high and conscience clear. You may know that the men, as they are wont to do, are exchanging notes, observations and reactions about every girl at the party. Can you detect that note of scorn as they discuss the party girls? And the tone of awe and respect if your name is mentioned? That should be the way you want it.

Harbor College to Offer 29 Occupational Courses

Seven vocational programs not offered by any other neighboring college will be offered at Harbor College this spring.

These seven vocational programs are engine fuel injection, fashion design merchandising, home furnishings merchandising, instrumentation, printing, space technology, and manufacturing engineering.

Using representatives of

Aviation Executives To Teach

North American Rockwell Aviation executives will teach a winter quarter program of courses concerned with purchasing, scheduled by University of California Extension, to begin the first week in January at North High School.

Bobbie Lee Benton, general supervisor of purchasing, Rocketdyne Division, will conduct "Fundamentals of Purchasing," scheduled to meet Thursdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Course study will focus on purchasing and procurement in industry, government and institutions.

"Advanced Purchasing" to be taught by Byron L. Pope, supervisor of purchasing, Space and Information Systems Division, will meet Tuesday evenings at the same time.

Also scheduled for Tuesdays, 6:45 to 9:45 p.m., "Legal Aspects of Purchasing" will explore the law of contracts, the synopsis of agency as related to the purchasing function, and uniform commercial code applied to contracts, according to instructor William Birdsall, manager, material administration, Space and Information Systems Division.

business and industry, each vocational program has its own advisory committee to be sure the program provides up-to-date skills and training equipment.

THE PURPOSE of each vocational program is to qualify its students for gainful employment in occupations which do not require a four-year college degree. A third of all Harbor College students are enrolled in such courses. Twenty-two other occupational courses are listed by instructional divisions.

In the Applied Technology Division are air conditioning and refrigeration, drafting, engineering, electronics, engineering technician, engines, machine-tool technology, offset lithography, radio and TV maintenance, and tool design. Graduates from some of the programs can qualify for positions as project engineers and tool engineers.

FIRE SCIENCE and police science are offered in the Social Science Division. Nearly 300 students are in one of these programs preparing to meet Jan. 5 in the admissions office.

for positions on the force or for in-service training leading to advancement on the job.

The Business Division offers these programs: accounting, business administration, clerical procedures, office machines, real estate, and secretarial science.

Home Economics majors graduating from Harbor College may be employed as home economists for food and appliance dealers, and public utility companies. Nursery school education and nursing programs are offered in the Home Economics-Nursing Division.

IN THE Humanities-Fine Arts Division there is only one vocational program, commercial art. Though it is a new program at Harbor College, the general quality of student work, so far, has been quite professional.

Those planning to enroll this Spring in any of the Harbor College vocational programs or four-year transfer courses are urged to contact the college immediately. An application for admission must be filed not later than 2 p.m. Jan. 5 in the admissions office.

Con Men Pose as Utility Salesmen, Gas Co. Warns

Gas Company officials warned today against unauthorized door-to-door solicitors who pose as utility company servicemen or furnace inspectors.

S. W. Lynch, Southern California Gas Co. Southwest Division manager, pointed out that such "confidence men" have been reported active in various parts of the state.

Posing as utility company employes, they try to sell homeowners heating system replacements or "terminal damage" repairs.

In most cases, Lynch said, the replacements or repair work turn out to have been unnecessary.

Gas company servicemen wear uniforms with identifying insignia and all gas company employes carry identification cards that they will produce on request, the division manager said.

"If you are in doubt about the identity of anyone claiming to be a gas company serviceman, call the nearest company office for verification," Lynch added.

Press-Herald Sunday Crossword

(Answer on A-6)

ACROSS

- 1-Father
- 5-Sphere
- 8-Father
- 11-American wild plum
- 15-... devil,
- 18-Relating to tenebrous
- 20-Light warehouse
- 21-Fly in V formation
- 22-More competent
- 23-Bring legal action
- 32-A rodent
- 34-Mechanical man
- 35-Large bundle
- 37-Involving punishment
- 41-Of score
- 42-Falling nausea
- 46-Tierra del Fuego
- 47-Pillager
- 49-Bird (pl.)
- 52-Common (Haw.)
- 53-To move
- 55-Brings forth
- 56-Beneath
- 58-Italian commune
- 57-Kind of duck
- 59-Small barrages
- 60-Require
- 61-Fisherman's basket
- 62-Of desert nomad people
- 66-Guard
- 67-Lacy carrying case
- 69-Cruise
- 70-Prong of fork
- 71-Stupid persons

DOWN

- 2-Prefix: before
- 3-Traded by
- 4-Printer's measure
- 5-Pronoun
- 6-Whole oil cask
- 7-Lower
- 8-Formal entrance into society
- 9-Auk genus
- 10-Female deer
- 11-A soft syllable
- 12-... Angeles
- 13-Baseball term (pl.)
- 14-Brother of Jacob
- 16-Dexterity
- 17-Colonial's greeting to Indian
- 18-A landed estate
- 19-Viscary
- 20-Behold
- 21-Exist
- 22-Cooking vessels
- 23-Philippine tree
- 24-White linen vestment (pl.)
- 25-Cry of the Bacchanals (pl.)
- 26-Moderated
- 27-North Syrian deity
- 28-Sat for portrait
- 29-To loosen from bonds
- 30-Freshwater annelids
- 31-Genus of S. African snakes
- 32-Six
- 33-Cry of the Bacchanals (pl.)
- 34-North Syrian deity
- 35-Part of leg (pl.)
- 36-Thrust back
- 37-Leather strip
- 38-The man from ...
- 39-Wild buffalo of India
- 40-Relating to wheels
- 41-coin (pl.)
- 42-City of Italy

- 45-Atmosphere
- 46-Male forehead
- 48-Notions
- 49-Withdraw from 70-Old coin of India
- 50-Body of Islam religious authorities
- 51-Talk with speech defect
- 52-Cuts in one stroke
- 53-Riotous indulgence
- 54-Perch
- 55-Call forth
- 56-Ravines
- 57-Viscary
- 58-Valley of the
- 59-Wife of Ramachandra
- 60-Asterisk
- 61-Lost Cleveland Mayor's race
- 62-Half a quart
- 63-Withered
- 64-Female horse
- 65-Exclude
- 66-A soft syllable
- 67-Scandinavian
- 68-Of the sun
- 69-Abducted Helen
- 70-Turkic deity
- 71-Cereal grain
- 72-Location
- 73-City of France
- 74-Peel
- 75-Cleopatra's handmaid
- 76-Container for flowers
- 77-Half an am
- 78-Nahoor sheep
- 79-Games coin
- 80-A compass point
- 81-Form
- 82-Pronoun
- 83-Mischiefous sprite
- 84-Symbol for thorium
- 85-Symbol for tantalum

State Highway Group Selects New Officers

SACRAMENTO—The California Highway Commission has elected a new chairman and appointed a new executive secretary.

The new chairman is Vernon J. Cristina, 51, San Jose trucking firm executive and warehouseman. Cristina had been appointed to the non-salaried commission last January by Governor Ronald Reagan.

The new executive secretary is Peter Tweedt, 35, a public relations man from Los Angeles County. He replaces Andrew John (Jack) Cooper, who had held the \$20,000 a year post for eight years.

When the new law took effect, the administrator no longer was a member of the commission, and the members were to elect their own chairman. The first chairman was Abraham Kofman, Alameda County publisher.

THE HIGHWAY commission was one of the few in the state on which Reagan was able to appoint a majority of the members when he first took office. It had been understood Cristina was marked as the main candidate for chairman.

Tweedt, a Republican, has been a program director for the Los Angeles branch of the National Association of Manufacturers. His salary will be from a minimum range of \$1,405 per month to a maximum of \$1,708.

His predecessor, Cooper, had been sent a letter by Gordon C. Luce, agency administrator, that his resignation would be accepted by the commission several months ago.