

Pre-Holiday Festivities Planned By Five Station Departments

A sparkling array of pre-Christmas parties, heralding the approaching Yuletide season, will be held during the coming week, starting with a dance tonight for members of the Rocket Development Department.

Tonight's festivities will get under way at 9 at the Community Center, with dancing to the music of Elby Coy and his orchestra. Tickets to the affair which will feature a cold buffet supper, are priced at \$1.50 per person and are available in the department offices.

Saturday evening, from 7:30 to 1, employes of the Navy Exchange will gather at the Community Center for their annual Christmas party. The affair will begin with a dinner at 7:30 and dancing will get under way at 9 to the music of the Millionaires.

Approximately 200 people are expected to attend the gala event, during which LT J. C. Hatch, Navy Exchange officer, will present five-year pins to Bob Haskell, Camilla Potts, Jim Coogan, Constance Pitman and Floyd Harrington.

Employes of the Technical Information Department have scheduled their pre-Christmas party for Tuesday evening from 8 to 12 at the Community Center. It will feature dancing to the music of the Vagabonds IV. Tickets, priced at \$1.25 per person, are available in

the department office.

Refreshments will be served during the festivities and intermission entertainment will include skits and acts staged by departmental employes.

Employes of Aviation Ordnance Department will usher in the holiday season with a party Wednesday evening starting at 7. Highlighting the festivities, in addition to dancing to the music of Elby Coy and his orchestra, will be a turkey dinner which will be served starting at 7:30.

A donation of \$2.75 per person will be accepted in the department office for the affair which will feature intermission entertainment by AOD employes. Dancing will begin at 9:30 and continue until 1:30.

The Yuletide season will be ushered in by employes of the Personnel Department with a Christmas party to be held at the Supervisor's hut, Thursday, starting at 7 p.m.

In addition to dancing, there will be a buffet dinner, featuring ham and turkey, and entertainment, which will be provided by members of the department.

Tickets to the affair, priced at \$5 per couple, are available through the department office. Anyone outside the department who wishes to attend the party should call Bobbi Rice, at 71592, by Monday at 4:30 p.m.

Hypnotism Show Scheduled Tonight

Another presentation of "East India Miracles," combination magic and hypnotism show featuring Ormond McGill, is scheduled tonight at 7 on the stage of the Station theater.

This will be the second of two performances to be presented this week to raise funds for support of the Little League baseball program at China Lake. Tickets, priced at 50 cents per person, will be on sale at the theater box office prior to curtain time.

The famed hypnotist and magician is back for his second series of programs here under the sponsorship of the Little League Baseball Association. He also appeared at China Lake last June and attracted such wide interest and favorable comment that the Little League directors made arrangements for the return shows.

Station residents found that portion of the show in which members of the audience participated especially entertaining during McGill's previous performances here.

KIDS' MOVIE PROGRAM SET

Two movies "Child of Bethlehem," and "Ice Carnival," and three Disney cartoons will be shown tomorrow as the December offering of the Children's Film Society. The program will be held from 10 to 11:10 a.m. at the Station theater. Membership cards will be on sale in the lobby.



SOLOISTS who will be featured in "The Messiah" are shown rehearsing under the direction of Charles D'Ooge, right. They are, from left, Eldon Dunn, Belva Moore, Donna Rinehart and John Gomez. The rehearsal pianist is Barbara Jean Patton. One of the soloists, Hildegard Weinhardt, was unable to be present for the picture.

Project Started To Aid Needy At Christmas Time

A China Lake unit of "Operation Santa Claus," designed to aid six needy families in this area, has been organized by personnel of the Propellants and Explosives Department.

Collection boxes for receiving contributions of slightly worn but still usable items of clothing and bedding, as well as toys for youngsters under six years of age, have been set up in the CLPP and SWPP administrative areas.

Members of the committee in charge of the Yuletide project have asked that donations be turned in no later than Monday, Dec. 20.

Persons outside the China Lake and Salt Wells areas who would like to participate may make arrangements to have their contributions picked up by calling any of the following committee members — Mrs. Ruth Massaro, Mrs. Gladys Bolton, Mrs. Elsie Santangelo, Mrs. Judy Hamilton or Jerri Rogers.

Benefit Bazaar Tops \$1500 Goal

Preliminary figures on the proceeds from the benefit bazaar held last Saturday at St. Ann's School in Ridgecrest indicate that the goal of \$1500 will be exceeded, according to Mrs. James DeSanto, chairman of the bazaar committee.

Approximately 1800 tickets were sold to the event which was attended by more than 1000 local people. The various booths were completely sold out with the exception of a few gifts and some fruit cake.

Proceeds from the event will be turned over to the Rev. Fr. John F. C. Ryan to help finance rebuilding of the school.

Chorus To Present Handel's 'Messiah' Sunday at Theater

The annual presentation of the Christmas portion of Handel's "Messiah" will inaugurate the Yuletide season at China Lake.

Featuring a 35-voice choir composed of members of local church choruses and the NOTS Repertory Group, a special vesper service open to the public free of charge will be presented Sunday at 5 p.m. on the stage of the Station theater.

The program will be directed by Charles D'Ooge, and soloists will be Belva Moore and Donna Rinehart, sopranos; Hildegard Weinhardt, alto; John Gomez, tenor, and Eldon Dunn, bass.

The chorus and soloists will be accompanied by a 14-piece orchestra, composed largely of stringed instruments.

During interludes between various sections of the musical program, the Rev. John L. Reid Jr., civilian pastor of the NOTS Community Church, will read the Christmas story.

Film Classic Slated For Local Presentation

An American film classic, "The Informer," starring Victor McLaglen, will be shown by the China Lake Film Society next Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Vieweg School auditorium.

Arrangements are now being made to obtain films for the film society's spring series, which will begin Feb. 9 and 10.

CPO CLUB ELECTION SET

A general meeting of all chief petty officers and Marine Corps master sergeants will be held Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., at the CPO Club. Purpose of the meeting is to elect a new manager for the club.

THE WEATHER

Mostly clear over the weekend with light and variable winds in the mornings, increasing to 10 to 15 knots in the afternoons. Maximum temperature 56, minimum 28.

Rocketeer

TEMPERATURES

| | Max. | Min. |
|--------|------|------|
| Dec. 2 | 63 | 30 |
| Dec. 3 | 48 | 38 |
| Dec. 4 | 63 | 39 |
| Dec. 5 | 58 | 32 |
| Dec. 6 | 56 | 30 |
| Dec. 7 | 65 | 35 |
| Dec. 8 | 60 | 30 |

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Executive Board Session



NEW OFFICERS of the China Lake Community Council met Tuesday evening to outline the background of ideas that will be included on the agenda for the regular Council meeting planned Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the China Lake Community Center. Checking the agenda items with Mrs. Marian Olds, seated at right, the new president, are Mary Sweeney, recording secretary; Dean Hewitt, standing at left, executive secretary, and John Weber, treasurer. H. D. Williams, vice-president, was unable to attend the meeting.

Traffic Accident Holiday Is Goal Of Nationwide Safe-Driving Day

One 24-hour period entirely free of traffic accidents is the goal set for each community throughout the nation on next Wednesday, which has been designated as Safe-Driving Day by President Eisenhower.

Every community has been alerted that the place to attack the traffic safety problem is in the community, and that the responsibility rests upon each individual.

It will implant in the minds of all motorists and pedestrians the

realization that, if they can greatly reduce accidents on S-D Day, they can do so every day in the year.

A special Safe-Driving Day program, open to all service personnel and employes who are not required for essential operations will be held Tuesday from 9:45 to 11 a.m. at the Station theater.

Speakers on the program, who will stress the urgency of observing safe driving practices, will be Captain R. F. Sellars, Station Executive Officer, and Robert Garrison, local California Highway Patrol officer.

Mr. Garrison also will present a 20-minute motion picture, "Last Date" which is a graphic presentation of the consequences of reckless driving.

In 1953, there were nearly 10 million traffic accidents. In addition to approximately one million fatal and personal injury accidents, there were about 3½ million property damage accidents involving \$25 or more, and about 5½ million

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New Type Appointment System For Civil Service Effective Jan. 23

Additional details regarding a new appointment system for the competitive service were announced recently by the United States Civil Service Commission.

On and after Jan. 23, 1955, appointments from Civil Service registers will be career-conditional. Career-conditional employes will have Civil Service status, and can be moved within and between agencies and re-employed after a break in service without again meeting competition in a Civil Service examination.

Such employes also will be subject to the Civil Service Retirement Act, and six per cent of their salaries will be deducted for the retirement fund.

Before becoming full career employes, career-conditional employes will have to complete three years of substantially continuous service, including a one-year probationary period during which they may be removed on simple notice.

Under the new Civil Service regulations, present indefinite employes properly selected from Civil Service registers will be given career or career-conditional appointments on Jan. 23, 1955, depending on whether they have completed three years' service.

Defense Secretary Favors Pay Raise For Armed Forces

From Armed Forces Press Service

Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson recently told a Washington press conference he would recommend a military pay increase averaging from three to five per cent. He said that about \$600 million of the proposed Department of Defense budget for the 1956 fiscal year would be earmarked for the additional wages.

Mr. Wilson noted that the three to five per cent figure was an overall average, indicating that the pay raise would be more than that for some servicemen and less for others. The skilled technician and the career serviceman, he explained, would get the largest increases.

The Secretary said also that new legislation to be presented to Congress when it convenes again in January would contain provisions for better housing and medical care for dependents of members of the Armed Forces.

Employees with Civil Service status given indefinite appointments non-competitively also will be given career or career-conditional appointments on the effective date of the new program.

Personnel Department officials from China Lake and the Pasadena Annex will attend two meetings next week to hear teams of Civil Service representatives explain details and answer questions about the new appointment system and the conversion of career employes.

Norman Newcomb, Roger Cogger, Ed Jones Jr., Bernard Silver and Dorothy Seaman will go to Los Angeles on Tuesday, and on Wednesday R. W. Anderson and George Hickman will travel to George Air Force Base near Victorville.

Indefinite employes not eligible for conversion will continue to serve for the time being under indefinite appointments. Such employes must meet open competition in Civil Service examinations in order to re-

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Housing List Entries For Next Quarter To Close Dec. 17

Entries for the Station housing list for the quarter beginning Jan. 1 will close next Friday, Dec. 17. Persons who wish to apply for family housing or change their present application should do so now at the housing office.

Applications should be filed at the housing office if a person is a new employe and has never applied for housing before, or if an employe has received a promotion or has had a change in dependency status that would affect his housing application.

Employes who wish to be considered for other housing for which they are eligible, even though they have been assigned family quarters, including trailers, also should file an application.

Those carried correctly on the October housing list, who have not been assigned family housing or trailers, need make no further application at this time.

Employes desiring Wherry housing should apply before Dec. 31 as the Wherry list will be frozen for a period of 30 days.

