



Ten Forty Times



DELMAR, NEW YORK

ELEVENTH EDITION

DECEMBER 1966

POST BY-LAWS CHANGES COMING UP FOR VOTE

The committee appointed by Commander Joe Cannizzaro to review the Post's Constitution and By-Laws has completed its work.

Chairman Charles J. O'Hara reports the committee is prepared to submit to the Post recommendations for changes. These changes, Commander Joe says, can be presented to the membership for a vote at the mid-December meeting.

There are four specific changes being offered. Of these, one relating to Viet Nam period veterans, comes to us from National Headquarters through our Department Commander.

Commander's Notice

"In keeping with paragraph 2 of Article VII of the Post Constitution and Article XVI of the By-Laws," announces Commander Cannizzaro, "this serves as a notice to all members of Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post No. 1040 of the American Legion, Department of New York, Inc., that on this first day of December, 1966, I have designated the regular Post meeting to be held on January 16, 1967 at 8:30 p.m., at the Post headquarters, the time and place at which to submit for a vote by the membership

proposed changes in the Constitution and By-Laws."

Viet Nam Vets

The changes are recommended by the committee appointed October 3:

Membership as described in Article III, paragraph 1 of the Constitution to be revised to include, in keeping with the recent American Legion action and legislated federally, Viet Nam wartime veterans.

For this change the following is to be inserted on the eighth line after the words "both dates inclusive;" *August 5, 1964 until the end of hostilities as determined by the Government of the United States.*

Paragraph 4 of Article V to have the last line changed to read "World War II, Korean War or the Viet Nam War".

Directors Term

An issue which had considerable debate in the committee has to do with the term of office of the Board of Directors. This body of officers is concerned with the maintenance of the Post building and the financial status and operation of the

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BLANCHARD CALENDAR

- MONDAY, Dec. 5—Post Affairs Committee meets at 7:30 p.m.
- Regular Post monthly meeting, 8:30
- WEDNESDAY, Dec. 7—Remember Pearl Harbor
- SATURDAY, Dec. 17—The Children's Christmas Party at 1:00 p.m.
- Egg Nog Party at 7:00 p.m.
- Tinsel Ball at 10:00 p.m.
- MONDAY, Dec. 19—Mid-monthly Post meeting at 8:30 p.m.
- SUNDAY, Dec. 25—Merry Christmas to all!
- TUESDAY, Dec. 27—County Legion meeting at Bucci-McTague Post
- SATURDAY, Dec. 31—New Year's Eve Party at 10:00 p.m.

VIET NAM VET JOINS BLANCHARD POST

Vice Commander-Membership Chairman Tom Patterson reports the first Viet Nam War veteran to become a Post member is Kenneth J. Simpson, Delmar. He is sponsored by his father, Kenneth N. Simpson.

Young Ken was recently discharged from the U. S. Navy after completing two years service which ended with duty in the Viet Nam War Zone. Ken was on the Committee That Cares list. The American Legion, with Congressional action signed by President Johnson two months ago, authorized the acceptance of honorably discharged members of the Armed Forces who have been on active duty since the Bay of Tonkin naval engagement on August 5, 1964.

It is planned to formally swear young Ken into the American Legion at our Post at the December 5 meeting.

Chairman Patterson also reports as of the mid-November meeting, Blanchard Post was about two-thirds of the way to meeting its quota of 742 members. He gave a figure of 458 paid-up members for 1966-67. If you are among the 284 who have not yet paid the dues, let these words serve as a reminder to get your dues in now. It will bring the Post that much closer to its deserving distinction of making its quota. It will ease the work load of our Membership Chairman who is doing a great job. Most important it will safeguard for you the veterans' services that the American Legion does in behalf of you and all who maintain their membership in it.

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A CHRISTMAS PACKAGE

In the spirit of the yuletide season, Blanchard Post will be an extra busy place on Saturday, December 17.

Vice Commander-Activities Chairman Hugh Stowers announces a trio of goodies arranged for that date. At one o'clock in the afternoon commences the annual Children's Christmas Party. In the evening at seven o'clock there will be the Egg Nog Party. At ten o'clock that night the customary Tinsel Ball takes place.

For the Kiddies

Arranging for Santa's visit to the Post to give his personal greetings at the Children's Party is Hugh Stowers. As in former years the party is for not only the children of the Post members but also children of the community. There will be movies and singing of Christmas carols and songs. When Santa arrives,

he'll have a gift for each of our young guests and then there'll be ice cream. The party should end by four o'clock.

Hugh needs help preparing for Santa's visit. On the night before (Friday, December 16) there'll be the job of decorating and filling Christmas stockings — about 150 of them. Commander Cannizzaro, Co-Chairman with Hugh, will be there. Anyone who wants to join them in doing these preparations, meet them at the Post between 8 and 9 p.m.

Night Events

Your American Legion membership card for either 1966 or 1967 will be your pass for you and your lady for both the Egg Nog Party and the Tinsel Ball. Your non-member guests will be required to have a dollar a person paid for them for

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BLANCHARD POST
PHONE 439-9819

- Commander Joseph L. Cannizzaro
 Vice Commanders:
 Membership—Thomas C. Patterson
 Activities—Hugh W. Stowers
 Special Events—William J. Campbell
 Adjutant Warren D. Moessner
 Finance Officer Robert J. Rosenfield
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 Sergeant-at-Arms John J. Brady, Sr.
 Historian Winthrop P. Robinson
 Service Officer Robert A. Ballentine
 Chmn. Board of Directors.....Harold C. Barkhuff
 Advertising Chmn. George A. Reeber
 Editor Alexander J. Woehrle

Auxiliary President's Corner

The regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, November 15, with President Betty presiding. We were unable to have the Community Ambassador as a speaker at this time as he has a very full speaking schedule. We are in hopes to have him later, possibly in January. At the business meeting Betty read her report on the Third District Conference and thanked the Unit for sending her as our representative.

The Christmas Party plans are under way. The night of the party is to be our regular meeting night, Tuesday, December 20. Shirley Kirk has accepted the chairmanship *again* this year. (Thank you, Shirley). Those who have volunteered to help her so far are: Maud Hafley—reservations; Liz Schraa—tables; and Jerry Klett—music. The menu will be roast beef at \$3.25 per person. Everyone is asked to bring a \$1.00 gift for exchanging. The telephone committee will be contacting all the members in time to get your reservation in. The time has been set for 6:30 so be sure and mark your calendar for December 20.

On Wednesday, November 2nd, the Bingo party was held at the VA Hospital. Those working that night were: Maud Hafley, Betty Costigan, Anne deHeus, Leah Hurley, Esther Cooke, Viola Knapp, Cossé Drury, Lucile Cole, Daisy Feldman and Zenith Campbell.

On Veteran's Day, following the services held at Memorial Park, a luncheon was held for the World War I veterans in the Post rooms. Chairman Maud Hafley was assisted by Leah Hurley, Chris Barkhuff, Helen Reynolds, Anne deHeus, Esther Cooke, Isabelle Ottman, Betty Costigan, and Mable McCredie.

On Wednesday, November 16, a dinner was held at the Ambassador Restaurant in Albany honoring the outgoing County Chairman, Mrs. Hugh Hastings. Representing our Unit were President Betty Costigan, Maud Hafley, Helen Reynolds, and Maury Flanigan.

"Open House" for the Gift Shop at the VA Hospital will be held Sunday, December 4, on the third floor from 2 to 4 p.m. The public is invited to attend and we hope that you will take this opportunity to make a visit. Maud Hafley is looking for any volunteers that are able to be at the hospital on December 6 to assist with the wrapping and mailing of these gifts. If you find that December 6 is a free day for you, contact Maud immediately and help Blanchard Auxiliary to have a good showing among the other Units that will be working at the hospital that day. No experience is necessary for this job, just the wish within you to help spread a little joy among the men in the hospital at this holiday season.

Discussion was held at the meeting concerning selling candy for the holidays and it was

decided that we order some Kathryn Beich candy. These tins of candy are very delicious and I am sure you will want some for yourself and others to send to friends and relatives. There will be a variety of kinds to choose from. A committee consisting of Anne Heilman, Esther Cooke, Helen Reynolds and Anne McGoey volunteered to organize and distribute the candy for this project. Every member is being asked to sell the candy and surely to buy some. This will be arriving soon so be sure and watch for it.

As of meeting night, Helen Reynolds, our Membership Chairman, was at the half-way mark in collecting the dues for 1966. Helen has a quota of 157 to meet. She would like very much to reach this quota as soon as possible and have Blanchard Unit receive a citation. The only way that she can do this is to have all members get their money to her as soon as possible. If you have forgotten to send your dues in — DO IT NOW!

So in closing, I want to leave you with four little thoughts:

1. Christmas Party: December 17
2. Open House at the VA: December 4
3. Support our candy-selling endeavor
4. Remember to pay my dues

I see that I should have made that *five* little thoughts. Be sure and have a happy holiday season one and all.

Zen

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Christmas Cheer

Blanchard Post has made its contribution of \$25.00 to the Veterans Administration Hospital Voluntary Service (VAVS) Christmas Party for patients at the Albany VA Hospital.

The American Legion Story

A recently published book, *The American Legion Story* has been presented to the Delmar Public Library and the libraries of the Bethlehem Senior and Junior High Schools by Blanchard Post. Americanism Chairman Charles O'Hara made the presentations on behalf of our Commander and the Post members.

Anyone wishing to have a volume for their home library, contact Charlie. The price is \$4.50. It may make a welcome Christmas gift.

Indoor Sports

This event will again take place at the Post on the first Saturday in February. Commander Cannizzaro has called upon Mike Norton, who has handled it so admirably in past years, to again be its chairman.

Look Ahead

The Mardi Gras Committee has issued an alert for all who intend to attend the Mardi Gras Dance in February to start now preparing what costume they intend to wear. The emphasis this year will be on costuming. No costume—no admission. This way the committee hopes to arouse more interest in the affair, make it more colorful and more enjoyable for those who participate in it.

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Commander Joe Cannizzaro checks in for Post's Blood Bank campaign. In photo he is filling out data card for the Bender Lab Blood-Mobile which was at the Post last month. Doing the paper work seated at table are (left to right) Auxiliaryites Helen Reynolds (wife of Roger Reynolds), President Betty Costigan (wife of past Commander Ed Costigan), and Cosse Drury (wife of Bill Drury).

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The Albany County American Legion Oratorical Contest is set for Sunday, January 22 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Terese of Avila Auditorium, New Scotland Avenue in Albany. Blanchard Post is proud to announce it will again be the sponsor of a young budding orator to take part in this American Legion program for the

youth of our nation. Bethlehem Central Senior High School officials are cooperating in this effort and are working with Post Oratorical Chairman Russell Denegar in the selection of the orator to represent us. The orator's name will be made known to us in the January issue of the 1040 TIMES.

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BLOOD BANK GROWS

Through the work of Chairman Fred Trombe and his committee, and the 48 blood donors who responded to the committee's appeal, Blanchard Post's Blood Bank account at Bender Lab has been nearly doubled.

The Bender Bloodmobile came to the Post on November 9. It was under the direction of Dr. Iwan O. Meyer and Nurse Mrs. Katherine Bradley and their staff of technicians.

Pass Out

An unexpected development occurred after the Bloodmobile departed from the Post. One of our donors became faint. To get medical assistance, George Reeber made a phone call to Dr. John P. Grogan who within five minutes was at the Post and treated the stricken individual. The doctor refused to submit a bill for the service because of the nature of the incident. For his faithful response and the manner in which he performed, Dr. Grogan was praised by Commander Cannizzaro in his report of the incident at the November 21 Post meeting.

Lady Donors

To their credit, special recognition is due two dedicated women who donated to our Blood Bank. They are Mrs. Doris Gdula of Albany and Mrs. Ann R. Donahue of Delmar. These are the first lady donors to this Bank. There were other women volunteers as blood donors but these ladies were the only donors who met the Bloodmobile requirements.

Donors

The 45 men donors, many who repeated from the first campaign and donated last February, are led off by Post Commander Joe Cannizzaro:

- Bruce Austin
- Albert M. Beckman
- Guyer C. Berbrick
- Edward Blendell
- William Campbell
- John W. Capone
- John Cleary
- Whitman Daniels
- Thomas Dare
- Russell Denegar
- James Donovan
- William Drislane
- Matthew Fitzgerald
- Albert Gdula
- Dr. Harry C. Harkness
- John Hermann
- Fred B. Hill
- Sidney Kaplan
- Dale B. Knox

COMMITTEE THAT CARES

This committee is now a community project with Blanchard Post, which initiated it, as a participating member. Each month one of the member-organizations has the assignment of sending a package to the young men from our community serving with the Armed Forces in the Viet Nam War Zone. The list has now risen to 18.

Last month's mailing, which is the package arriving in time for Christmas, was the responsibility of our Post. The shopping for the package was done by Al Woehrle. A wrapping committee was secured by Win Robinson. In no time at all the packaging was done by the wrappers, which also included Ralph Butler, Harry Brickman and George Brown, all World War I vets.

Each package had a stainless-steel (no glass) mirror, nail clipper, combination knife-bottle opener-nail file-key chain-screwdriver, five packages of Kool-Aid (pre-sweetened with different flavors); poker-dice game; a Christmas greeting card and a note from the committee.

You Can Share

Anyone wishing to do something like sending a letter from home, or a package to our fellows in Viet Nam, contact Win or Al to get a list of their names and addresses.

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- Richard C. Lenseth
- Ed Marsh
- Roy C. McCormack
- William J. Mitchell
- Warren D. Moessner
- Joseph Morrison
- Fred Muchelot
- Michael J. Norton
- Richard O'Connell
- Oliver Palmer
- Albert Pistilli
- Art Prue
- Benny Ravita
- Peter Roach
- Charles Redmond
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- William Schraa
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POST BY-LAWS CHANGES COMING UP FOR VOTE

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Post. It was formed originally to relieve the commander of these burdens so that more of his attention would be given to the advancement of the principles of the American Legion. The purpose has been served and the 11-member Board since its inception has performed meritably.

However, there has been expression that the Board as it is constituted with 3-year staggering terms would have much to gain by limiting the Board member to non-succeeding terms. That is, a Board member should not immediately succeed himself.

To effect this change it is necessary to add this sentence to paragraph 1 of Article I after the last word "year": *No director shall immediately succeed himself. This should not preclude a retiring director from being elected at a future election after his term expires.*

Single Monthly Meeting

To encourage stronger meeting attendance, the committee has revived the issue of eliminating a monthly meeting. Sentiment in the By-Law group is to do away with the mid-monthly session.

This can be accomplished by deleting the words "and third" from paragraph 2 of Article XI of the By-Laws.

Nominations

Under the present system of nominations the membership has little or no knowledge of the candidates named for election to the Post offices. There are those who espouse the thought of attending meetings to learn what's going on at the Post. However, the present By-Laws allow only a meeting between nominations and elections. This, it has been recognized by Mr. O'Hara's committee and others, is hardly adequate. Subject to the membership's decision on the elimination of the mid-monthly meeting, the By-Laws Revision Committee offers this change for paragraph 2 of Article XII of the By-Laws. On the second line after "manner": change "At the regular monthly meeting preceding the annual election the nominating committee appointed by the commander shall present" to read *At the annual January meeting a nominating committee will be appointed by the commander with instructions to present at the annual April meeting.*

"Whether or not these suggested changes are effected" says the Commander, "I wish to thank Charlie O'Hara and his committee associates who have worked with him on this effort. The time and attention they gave it deserves the thanks of all of us. It shows they have the interest of the American Legion at heart. We're glad they're Legionnaires in Blanchard Post."

Participating with O'Hara on this committee were George Butman, Dick Lenseth, Win Robinson, Joe Von Ronne and Al Woehrl.

A CHRISTMAS PACKAGE

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either of these two night-time events. Both parties are on the same dollar. Let this notice be sure to alert you to carry your Legion card—especially the night of the 17th.

Egg Nog Party

Chairman for the two night-time parties is Past Commander Charlie O'Hara. Helping him with the egg nog serving will be Dick Dalton, John Bedell, and Nick DiBiase. Auxiliary President Betty Costigan and Kay Lenseth head up the committee preparing the hors d'oeuvres.

Tinsel Ball

By popular demand the music of Marv Hirschburg will add to the luster of the evening. Dancing will continue until two in the morning.

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What a Time

Italian Night or late Columbus Day, or by whatever name, was a great success, Chairman Gus Williams reports. There were nearly 400 spaghetti dinners served. The decorations were a delight. The men and gals of the Post and the Auxiliary who did the serving were colorful and charming. The Motor Morini was happily carted away by Bert Compton, a neighbor of Commander Cannizzaro. And not the least of the affair, it was a financial success.



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SEE
NOTES

RECENTLY JOINED

New or transferred-in members to Blanchard Post who were sworn in at ceremonies conducted by Past Commander Ralph Butler last month are:

<i>Member</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
John Cleary	Dick Lenseth
James Cleary	
Nicholas DiBiasi	Gus Williams
Louis Feldman	Pat Russo
Mario Gallacchi	Bill McGoey
Leonard L. Honig	Dick Haverly
Joseph L. Mannion	
Joseph H. Reohr	Pat Russo
Leonard J. Schmidt	Charlie Wiley
John F. Walsh	Al Woehrle

These new members are urged to attend the December 5 meeting so that their entrance into the American Legion and our Post can be formally made and they can be presented with their badge of honor, The American Legion lapel emblem:

<i>Member</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
Edward V. Brady	John Brady, Sr.
M. J. Cobats	
John Ehring	
Roy E. Howton	Joe Cannizzaro
Charles L. Kebbon	
Edward D. Porter	Art Quinn
Andrew J. Rooney, Jr.	Art Quinn
Thomas L. Scherer	Bob Collins
George E. Sidman	Art Quinn
Samuel J. Stein	Ken Stinson
Belmont M. Williams	
U. N. Williams	Bill Flint

Recognition

The membership committees from the National level down are stressing this year the importance of maintaining its membership strength. For this, awards are being offered for bringing new members into the Legion. Be among sponsors who will qualify for this special award.

**ATTEND
CHURCH
ON
SUNDAY**

Bowling at Rome

The Department of New York Bowling Tournament is scheduled for the weekends between April 1-2 and May 6-7 at Rome, N. Y. Entrants for it should call the Post Bowling President Bryant McCarthy or Secretary Charlie Wiley.

ONE FOR THE ROAD!

At a time when we should be thinking of Peace on Earth and Good Will Toward Men, the accident rate in the United States almost doubles.

During 11 months of the year, drinking is a factor in about 30% of all motor vehicle accidents. In December, the figure jumps to 55%. Add to this the fact that more than half of the year's home fire deaths occur during four months—from December through March—and you begin to see that man seems to be more inhuman to himself and to others at this time of the year than at any other.

Perhaps one of the greatest menaces during this time of the year is the so-called "social drinker", who takes just a few drinks at the annual Christmas party. These drinkers are a greater menace than is commonly believed. They greatly outnumber the obviously drunk drivers, and their critical judgment is impaired to a much greater degree than realized. Pointing this up are medical facts, that in spite of what the average person thinks, drinking coffee *will not* make a drunk person sober. Only time will do that.

Alcohol depresses the nervous system to a great degree. Even one drink slows a person's reaction sufficiently to cause an accident. Time and time again, it has been demonstrated that if the reaction is slowed just one-fifth of a second, if you are driving 35 miles-per-hour, you will travel an extra ten feet before you can step on the brakes to avoid hitting a person, or another car.

So, if you want "something for the road", make it a taxi.

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WORDS OF WISDOM

KEY TO GREATNESS

To bear up under loss, to fight the bitterness of defeat and the weakness of grief, to be victor over anger, to smile when tears are close, to resist evil men and base instincts, to hate hate and to love love, to go on when it would seem good to die, to seek ever after the glory and the dream, to look up with unquenchable faith in something evermore about to be, that is what any man can do, and so be great.

— Zane Grey

HOLD YOUR HEAD HIGH

Each golden sunrise ushers in new opportunities for those who retain faith in God and in themselves, and keep their chins up. No one ever saw a cock crow with his head down, but always high in the air.

Nor can one gain the right outlook on life with his head held low. Courage to start and willingness to keep everlastingly at it are the requisites for success in every avenue of life.



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NEW JOB FOR COMMANDER

Due to a recent sad incident, a special committee has been formed by Albany County Commander Raymond J. Steede who named Commander Joe Cannizzaro as its chairman.

The action stems from the Viet Nam death of P.F.C. James McNally, Albany, whose sister had moved to Delmar, which was used as the dead soldier's address. When the deceased man was returned to Albany the Survivor's Assistance Officer, assigned by the U. S. Army to Albany, called upon our commander for pall-bearers from the American Legion. The call came at the time of the last County Legion meeting for the funeral to be held two days later. Since the County was unprepared for such an occasion, Joe was appointed as chairman to prepare a report with recommendations to meet future incidents of this nature.

Funeral

While eight pall-bearers were requested for the McNally funeral, only four reported. These included Commander Cannizzaro and Al Woehrle of Blanchard Post. Services were at St. Patrick's Church in Albany with burial in Rensselaer. From West Point the U. S. Army furnished a firing squad, a bugler and an escort for the deceased soldier. At the graveside, Commander Cannizzaro and Al Woehrle were assigned the duty of removing the American Flag from the casket and folding it according to ritual. The Flag was then handed to the escort-sergeant, who on behalf of the U. S. Government, presented it to the sister of the deceased.

GET A NEW MEMBER

Flags

Flag Chairman George Reeber reports three American Flag kits have been sold. He has them available for \$3.50. They would make a very worthy Christmas gift, George suggests.

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To Hat or Not!

Got cold feet? A hat will do more good than an extra pair of socks! The U. S. Army, working to develop an ultra-warm uniform for soldiers in Arctic regions, learned that when the head, which houses our body's "thermostat," isn't adequately insulated against the cold, it draws on the rest of the body's supply of heat. Then the extremities, especially the poor feet, suffer the most. In 25 degree weather, a clothed man can lose half his body heat via an uncovered head!

BASEBALL NOTES

Blanchard Post will hold its annual baseball dinner during the Christmas holidays. The date is not definite but it will probably be Tuesday, December 27.

Our two teams, Blanchard South and Blanchard North, will be guests of the Post. We also hope to have our sponsors, Brian Gallagher of Gallagher's Sports Store, and Ray "Doc" Brownell of the Brownell Real Estate Agency, in attendance with their wives.

Guests of honor will be Barney Greenc and Paul Gibbs. As you must know, Barney has moved to Orange County and his assistant, Mr. Gibbs, has announced his retirement from field duty. It's hoped Paul will continue actively in the league's organization as well as in his usual outstanding performance in keeping Delmar's dogs off the playing field.

In addition to the foregoing, parents and friends of our athletes will be in attendance, as well as Frank Staucet, our County Legion Baseball Chairman. All members of the Post are invited. Price will be reasonable and the seating will be limited. If interested, see me.

DICK DALTON, *Chairman*

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MUSE AWHILE

THE CHRISTMAS TREE

The Christmas tree as we know it had its beginning in Germany where it has been traced back as far as the year 1605. Covered with tinsel, lighted with candles, adorned with gilded nuts, fruits, dolls and little animals, this stately symbol of Christmas spirit graced the homes of the rich and poor alike.

It was not until Queen Victoria's reign that the tree was used in Christmas celebrations in England. Just one hundred and forty-six years ago, the tree was set up in Windsor Castle for the enjoyment of the royal children. Because it had always been part of his own boyhood on Christmas eves in Germany, Prince Albert, wanted the family to know the thrill and wonder of a tree lighted with candles and surrounded with presents for the whole family.

The lighted tree was such a delightful custom that it was taken up by the entire country and quickly found its way to America. Fifty years later President Harrison spoke of it as already an old-fashioned custom: "We shall have an old-fashioned Christmas tree for the grandchildren upstairs; and I shall be their Santa Claus myself. If my influence goes for aught let me hope that my example may be followed in every family in the land."

G'Bye '66

This year will be bid farewell and 1967 welcomed at Blanchard Post with a New Year's Party. Vice Commander-Activities Chairman Hugh Stowers has called upon George Feiden to be the chairman. The festivities will get under way at 10 p.m. on December 31. Marv Hirschburg will provide the music. There'll be a 2 a.m. breakfast of bacon and eggs, juice, rolls and coffee. The assessment is set at \$3.50 per couple. To all who attend and to all who don't — HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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